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The Canadian INDIA TIMES

(The National Voice of Indo-Canadians)

Established in 1967

Elections and after

From our Correspondent

New Delhi — On a surface view of things, one inescapable conclusion from the outcome of the recent assembly elections in five States is that Mrs. Indira Gandhi has emerged as a major force in national politics.

An experienced observer of the political scene is emphatic that the present pro- Mrs. Gandhi effervescence will before long pass. He sees no political future for Mrs. Gandhi.

Be that as it may, one feature of the election results is noteworthy. In the towns where there is some awareness of the black record of the emergency rule, Mrs. Gandhi's party has done poorly in comparison with the countryside where the message of the Shah Commission has obviously not penetrated.

On a short-term view of things, however, there is no doubt that her party in the real Congress in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. Equally, there can be no doubt that the official Congress till recently presided over by Brahmananda Reddi, is the real Congress in Assam, Meghalaya and, despite the deep inroads made by Mrs. Gandhi's party, a significant force in Maharashtra. This should give some strength to the Congress supporters whose morale might be in their boots.

Whether in the north or the south, her election campaign was facilitated by an abundance of resources which enabled her to charter helicopters (reportedly at Rs. 4,000 per flight hour) and aircraft for whirlwind tours.

LESSONS FOR JANATA

It is perhaps easy to read too much in the geographical distribution of political success.

The Janata Party, while failing to form governments in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, has emerged the second largest party in each State, with 60 and 58 seats respectively. This marks a considerable extension of its influence since last year's Lok Sabha poll, when it secured only one seat in Andhra Pradesh and two in Karnataka. The Janata has certainly crossed the Vindhyas, though not in as great strength as many of its leaders had expected.

The elections provided a test and an opportunity for the Janata Party: a test of its performance after a year in office at the Centre and in other States, and a great opportunity to erase the image of being a party essentially of the north. It has succeeded in Party, erasing the latter. On the whole, there was visible lack of cohesion within its leadership and ranks, and the indiscriminate admission to its fold of professional defectors and rank opportunists only helped to tarnish its image. The Janata stand on the highly emotive question of Hindi was another factor which went against it.

The message for the Janata is clear. It must get down seriously to the business of government. While the current election results by no means indicate that Mrs. Gandhi's return to power is round the corner — she has governments in only two States and will remain in a minority in Parliament even if all MPs returned on the party's ticket in March last year join her — continued inability to deliver the goods will seriously undermine its popularity and may increase hers.

As for Congress, the verdict is perhaps far more consequential, and not just personally for Brahmananda Reddy and Y.B. Chavan. The party's virtual collapse in two States is likely to set in motion a mass exodus of Congressmen from the party, partly to Mrs. Gandhi's party and partly to the Janata Party. Indeed, the whole political spectrum looks like undergoing a major transformation in the weeks to come.

Mixed reaction to budget

New Delhi - The major national newspapers are divided in their editorial reactions to the Union budget for 1978-79.

While the **Times of India** calls it an unimaginative "accountant's budget", the **Indian Express** feels it is "bold and imaginative". The **Statesman** is greatly disappointed, while the **Hindustan Times** is non-commital but tends to support it.

The **Times of India** says: "All hopes that the Janata government will turn a new leaf in fiscal management after its first full year in office have been rudely shattered. Despite the loud talk of stimulating demand, promoting investments giving a powerful fillip to production and generating more savings in the economy, Mr. H.M. Patel's budget proposals on the whole are like to have just the contrary effect in every critical area".

Criticising the huge budgetary gap left in the budget, the paper goes on to say: "Like an unimaginative accountant, the government has now resorted to savage taxation on a broad front to close a part of the gap, regardless of the consequences".

On the other hand, the **Indian Express** congratulates the Finance Minister "for taking a calculated but bold risk in at least embarking on the path of growth".

The first reaction to H.M. Patel's second Budget, says the **Statesman**, is one of disappointment about what he has done and left undone. The nagging question remains, it says, whether an increase of a mere 17 per cent in the Plan outlay to Rs. 1,16,490 million (US $12945 million), of which less than 10 per cent is on new projects, justifies the huge budgetary gap.

The Moscow-oriented **Patriot** describes the budget as a "fraud". The budget reveals the Janata Government's "pathetic incapacity to formulate economic and fiscal policies that can impart a new vigour to the pace of development". The finance Minister has betrayed "amazing helplessness in turning to advantage the strength and resilience acquired by the Indian economy due to massive stocks of foodgrains and unprecedented accretion of foreign exchange reserves".

Prohibition in U.P.

Dehra Dun — Bars all over Uttar Pradesh will be closed down from April 1 in pursuance of the State Government's prohibition policy. Drinking in clubs had been banned sometime ago.

In the first phase of the prohibition policy, total prohibition will be introduced in the seven districts of Dehra Dun, Nainital, Almora, Kanpur, Unnao, Rae Bareli and Lucknow from April 1. Already prohibition is in force in five hill districts. The State exchequer will lose about Rs 200 million (US $22.2 million) as a result of implementation of the first phase of prohibition.

Total prohibition will be introduced all over the State within four years.

Head of States who attended the South Asian and Pacific Regional meeting of the Commonwealth countries in Sydney. [L to R] M. Bernora Dowijogo, President Nauru, Morarji Desai, Prime Minister of India, Sir S.S. Rampal, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, Malcolm Fraser, Prime Minister of Australia, Prime Fatagolai Tuipelehake, Prime Minister of Tonga, Lee Kuan Yew, Prime Minister of Singapore [Standing] Tupoula Tufuga Efi, Prime Minister of Western Samoa, Robert Muldoon, Prime Minister of New Zealand, Datuk Hussein bin Onn, Prime Minister of Malaysia, Gen. Zia ur Rahman, President of Bangladesh, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, Prime Minister of Fiji, J.R. Jayawardene, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka and Michael Somare, Prime Minister of Papua, New Guinea.

Marriage legislation passed

[From Our Correspondent]

New Delhi - An important piece of legislation which did not quite hit the headlines was passed by Parliament on February 21. This was an official bill which has laid down that in future girls shall not marry until they are 18 and boys until they are 21. The present ages are 15 and 18 respectively.

Out of the Lok Sabha's strength of 544 members, there were only 22 members present on the House besides the Law Minister when the bill came up. The quorum bill had to sing for quite a while before the bill could actually be taken up.

The new legislation would apply to all religious communities in India equally.

The bill constitute a legislative landmark since the existing Child Marriage Restraint Act, commonly known as the Sarda Act, was passed some five decades ago (it was amended in 1949). But can legislation alone, no matter how progressive, make any real difference on the ground? It is no secret that the Sarda Act has been honoured more in the breach than in the observance.

Child marriage in India is a custom which goes back into antiquity. Many famous Indian leaders, too, have been victims of this evil social practice. Among them was Mahatma Gandhi who married at the age of 13 a girl of the same age. Mahatma Gandhi and other leaders who married early campaigned against this custom all their lives.

Although the custom of child marriage prevails in urban areas also, it is largely a rural problem. Marriages often take place in the countryside at ages when the bride and the bridegroom are hardly aware of what is happening to them.

In 1971, in the rural areas, 13.19 per cent of the girls in the age group of 10-14 were married and 0.1 per cent were widows. In the age group 15-19 63.9 per cent were married. In urban areas this percentage was much less: 4.11 in the age group 10-14, and 36.26 in the 15-19 age group. Also, 45.21 per cent of the girls in rural areas were married as compared to 13.25 per cent of boys.

Prevention of child marriage is a social reform, and experience has shown that such a reform cannot be brought about merely through legislation.

What is involved here is changing customs and habits that go back centuries, and unsettling values that are sub-consciously and therefore tenaciously held.

Government sees this legislation as a population control measure. But experts feel it is unlikely to achieve this objective until the root cause is attacked. The girl in the rural area is considered by parents to be an economic liability. Through education and work-oriented training she must be turned into an economic asset. Then her marriage will get delayed, as she will no longer be a burden on usually poor parents. This must inevitably be a long process.

No increase in rail fares

New Delhi — Railway fare and freight rates have been left untouched and more concessions offered to second class passengers in Railway Minister Madhu Dandavate's Rs. 654.3 million (US $72.7 million) surplus budget for 1978-79 (April-March) presented to the Lok Sabha. This is the second year in succession that the rates have remained unchanged and is also the second successive surplus budget.

The Railway Minister announced that from April long-distance second class passengers would have to pay a flat rate as sleeper berth charges regardless of the number of nights spent on board as against the current practice of charging per night.

The surcharge on super-fast express trains for second class passengers has been cut and will be abolished altogether for some trains no longer regarded as super-fast.

Half concession, hitherto available for only nine months (July to March) will now be available throughout the year.

In response to the public demand for cheap food while travelling, the Minister has decided to introduce cheap food packets on all major long-distance trains.

To improve the lot of the ordinary traveller, all second class coaches in fast trains will be equipped with cushioned seats as well as berths. A new prototype coach is being developed with six toilets instead of four, more fans and better water supply arrangements. Twelve double-decker coaches are expected to be produced this year, and will be pressed into service from April 1978.

At the same time it has been decided to stop making any more first class airconditioned coaches, and to phase out this class progressively.

FREE FOR NEW IMMIGRANTS

In order to help the recent immigrants to settle down with minimum discomfort, The Canadian India Times has decided to send the paper free for three months to all landed immigrants who have stayed in Canada or USA for only less than two months. We expect to publish several articles and news items that will be of special interest to new immigrants.

Therefore if you are a recent arrival in North America on an immigrant visa fill in the following coupon and send it to us.

NAME----------

ADDRESS----------

CITY----------

DATE OF ARRIVAL----------

COUNTRY FROM WHICH CAME----------

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND----------

Finance Minister, H.M. Patel giving finishing touches to the Budget before presenting the same to Parliament.

From the Indian Parliament

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi: There was pandemonium in the Lok Sabha as the session started on February 21 to discuss the President's address.

Several members stood up speaking agitatedly, all at the same time, demanding an immediate discussion on the insult shown to the Defence Minister, Jagjivan Ram, and the harijan community in general, in an incident in Varanasi, U.P.

Their complaint was that some persons, allegedly belonging to Congress(I) led by Mrs. Gandhi, performed "sudhi (purification) ceremony with the Ganga water on the statue of Dr. Sampurnanand which was unveiled by Mr. Ram last month.

While the Speaker, K.S. Hegde agreed that the matter was serious, he was not prepared to allow a discussion immediately.

After a five-hour discussion the following day the house unanimously condemned the incident. However, the government declined to order a judicial inquiry.

U.S. POLICY

The External Affairs Minister, A.B. Vajpayee, in identical replies to questions in both the houses, said that the government was studying the legislation approved by the US Senate with regard to the future supplies of nuclear fuel in the context of implications on the Indo-US nuclear cooperation.

He said that though the government had not received any formal communication regarding the legislation, its provisions had been brought to their attention.

LETTERS FROM CARTER

Vajpayee said that the Prime Minister had received three communications from the US President, Jimmy Carter, since the latter's visit to India. They related to some of the issues discussed during Mr. Carter's visit.

SUPERSONIC FLIGHTS

The government had not permitted some foreign airlines to operate supersonic jumbo flights over India during their flight from London and Paris to Sydney and other places in Australia, the Tourism and Civil Aviation Minister, Mr. Purushottam Kausik, told the house.

SMUGGLING BY VIPs

In November 1977, contraband goods worth Rs. 9,20,410 were seized from the baggage of a diplomat, who was accredited to India, the Minister of State for Finance, Satish Agarwal, informed the house.

Again in December 1977, contraband goods worth Rs. 2,15,150 were seized from a person who, though not accredited to India, was holding a diplomatic passport of a foreign country. The minister declined to disclose in public interest the names of the countries to which the two persons belonged.

RIGHT TO LIFE AND LIBERTY

The Law Minister Mr. Shanti Bhushan told the house that the government would amend Article 359 of the Constitution to ensure that right of life and liberty given to the citizen under Article 21 were not "capable of suspension under any circumstances and under any kind of emergency."

The Minister was replying to question relating to the views expressed by Mr. Justice Chandrachud in the habeas corpus petition case and his subsequent appointment as the Chief Justice of India.

He expressed the hope that the House would lend its support in the proposed Bill to rectify the distortions made by the 42nd Constitution Amendment Act.

SANJAY'S WEALTH

The income tax assessment for 1970-71 and 1974-75 and wealth tax assessment for 1976-77 in respect of Sanjay Gandhi have been reopened since there was reason to believe that the income wealth chargeable to tax had escaped assessment, the Finance Minister, H.M. Patel, told the house.

WALK OUT

Members of the Congress (I) and Congress in the Rajya Sabha were together when they staged a walk out to protest against the government's stand on their party flag.

The issue related to a reported move by the government to prevent the use of the Congress flag which resembled the National flag.

Members were not satisfied with the answer given by the Minister of State for Home Affairs, D.L. Mandal, that the government was yet to take a decision.

language controversy

The language controversy figured in the house off and on. It started on the very first day itself when some Hindi enthusiasts wanted the President to address in Hindi.

Then it came during the presentation of the Railway Budget. As the Railway Minister, Madhu Dantavate, continued to address in English, some members demanded that he spoke in Hinid. Members from the Southern states, particularly of Tamil Nadu, were up on their feet protesting against the demand.

They wanted an assurance from the government that the assurance given by Jawaharlal Nehru that English would continue as an associate language as long as the people of non-Hindi speaking states wanted it would be honoured by the Janata government.

eplying to points raised in Sabha during the 3 day debate on the President's address to Parliament, the Prime Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai said the policy of the government was not to thrust Hindi on anybody. He however, ruled out the possibility of making a provision in the Constitution to allow the continued use of English as the offical language.

The house later passed a motion of thanks to the President rejecting all amendments.

Communist gains in elections

From our Correspondent

New Delhi — A fact which has not been much noticed even within India is the steady increase in the influence of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) in the elections held since March 1977, particularly in the eastern region. This has been causing some disquiet in certain quarters here and abroad.

In the five States which went to the polls on February 25, the CPI(M) had won only two seats in 1972, one each in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. This time the party has bagged 28 seats in all — eight in Andhra Pradesh, nine in Maharashtra, and 11 in Assam. It did not win any seat in Karnataka.

Significantly, in Assam, the party has won seats for the very first time.

It will be recalled that in June 1977, CPI(M) scored a massive victory in neighbouring West Bengal and an even more spectacular victory in Tripura in January 1978. In the former, it dominates a Left coalition while in the border State of Tripure it rules as the majority party in its own right.

CPI(M) was a Janata Party ally in last March's Lok Sabha election, and the two had an understanding in the June 1977 West Bengal election. The sole common bond that binds them is opposition to Mrs. Gandhi.

For the first time in any election, too, the CPI(Marxist-Leninst) Party has won one seat in Assam.

The CPI this time retains the strength it had in 1972, winning 15 seats on both occasions. It now has seats in all the four States. It contested four seats in Meghalaya — and lost all.

New ... ta...

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi: Justice Ye... Vishnu Chandrachud, the ... most Judge of the Supreme ... of India, was sworn in th... Chief Justice of India on Fe... 22.

He succeeded Justice M.... who has retired.

The appointment of ... Chandrachud set at rest s... tions about the new Chief ... of India which had bec... subject matter of public ... for a couple of months.

The controversy started w... eminent men, including a ... Union Minister and a ... jurist, M.C. Chagla, s... memorandum to the Pr... against the appointment o... Justice Chandrachud or ... P.N. Bhagwati, two senior ... of the Supreme Court, in ... their judgement during the ... gency against the citizen ... favour of the State in the ... corpus case denying the ... the detenues to seek ... intervention seeking ju... Justice H.R. Khanna, ho... gave a dissenting note ... judgement.

The bar and the ... leadership were divided ... issue. The governmen... cautious in not followi... policy of the previous ... regime in appointing "con... judges" by flouting the p... of seniority. In the pa... government allowed su... sions in the appointme...

Satisfacto... of...

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The Survey states that ... of growth of gross ... products is expected ... substantially higher th... growth in 1976-77. Agr... over last year's perfo... particularly with regard ... output of foodgrains.

Infact onary pressu... been held under check ... price level is nominall... than what it was at the b... of this fiscal year. Greate... has been achieved in re... the growth of money su... credit policy has checked ... tive hoarding of e... commodities without in... affecting adversely the ... credit needs of productiv... of the economy. Supply ... ment has also improved ... ably.

Exports continue t... despite adverse condi... world markets and the le... foreign exchagne rese... currently equal to 9 ... imports. The Survey sur... stating that overall, the ... state of the economy is st... substantial set-up in in... for growth can be safel... taken.

NIJALINGAPPA TAKES ... RESIGNATION

Chitradurga (Karnataka) ... The Congress President ... time of the party's firs... 1969, S. Nijalingappa, ... resigned from the Janat... few days ago, has now w... the resignation.

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New Chief Justice takes over

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi: Justice Yeshwant Vishnu Chandrachud, the senior most Judge of the Supreme Court of India was sworn in the 16th Chief Justice of India on February 22.

He succeeded Justice M.H. Beg who has retired.

The appointment of Justice Chandrachud set at rest speculations about the new Chief Justice of India which had been the subject matter of public debate for a couple of months.

The controversy started when 54 eminent men, including a former Union Minister and a leading jurist, M.C. Chagla, sent a memorandum to the President against the appointment of either Justice Chandrachud or Justice P.N. Bhagwati, two senior judges of the Supreme Court, in view of their judgement during the emergency against the citizen and in favour of the State in the habeas corpus case denying the right of the detenues to seek court's intervention seeking justice. Justice H.R. Khanna, however, gave a dissenting note in the judgement.

The bar and the Janata leadership were divided on the issue. The government was cautious in not following the policy of the previous Indira regime in appointing "committed judges" by flouting the principle of seniority. In the past the government allowed supersessions in the appointments of Justice Gajendragadkar, Justice A.N. Ray and Justice M.H. Beg as Chief Justices.

Although it is the prerogative of the President of India to appoint the Chief Justice of India, the government held the widest possible consultations before the appointment was made.

Shanti Bhushan, Law Minister, told his critics in the Lok Sabha that there was "overwhelming opinion" among the sitting Supreme Court Judges and Chief Justices of the High Courts in the States that the senior most judge should be appointed as the Chief Justice of India.

Justice Chandrachud, 58, will have the longest spell of seven-and-half-years in office before he retires at the age of 65. The longest period a Chief Justice was in office so far is four years and four months. Several of his junior judges would retire during his term of office without having an opportunity to hold this highest judicial post.

Born on July 12, 1920 and educated at Pune and Bombay, Justice Chandrachud began his career as an advocate of the Bombay High Court in 1943 and specialised in civil and criminal work. He was part-time professor of law at a Bombay college from 1949 to 1952 and was made an additional judge of Bombay High Court on March 19, 1961. On December 21 the same year, he was made a permanent judge. He was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court on August 28, 1972.

Satisfactory performance of economy

New Delhi, (Samachar): The pre-Budget Economic Survey presented to Parliament Thursday by the Finance Minister, H.M. Patel, expresses satisfaction over the performance of Indian economy in 1977-78.

The Survey states that the rate of growth of gross national products is expected to be substantially higher than the growth in 1976-77. Agriculturel over last year's performance, particularly with regard to the output of foodgrains.

Inflationary pressures have been held under check and the price level is nominally higher than what it was at the beginning of this fiscal year. Greater success has been achieved in restricting the growth of money supply and credit policy has checked speculative hoarding of essential commodities without in any way affecting adversely the genuine, credit needs of productive sectors of the economy. Supply management has also improved appreciably.

Exports continue to grow despite adverse conditions in world markets and the level of our foreign exchange reserves is currently equal to 9 months' imports. The Survey sums up by stating that overall the current state of the economy is such that a substantial set-up in investment for growth can be safely undertaken.

NIJALINGAPPA TAKES BACK RESIGNATION

Chitradurga (Karnataka State) - The Congress President at the time of the party's first split in 1969, S. Nijalingappa, who had resigned from the Janata Party a few days ago, has now withdrawn the resignation.

Nijalingappa has lent support to the Janata Party in the forthcoming elections to the State Assembly.

Indira guilty

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi: Mrs. Indira Gandhi, former Prime Minister, had committed a breach of privilege and contempt of the House by her statement in which she commented on a speech by the Home Minister, Mr. Charan Singh, in the Lok Sabha in July 1977.

The Committee of Privileges of the Lok Sabha, in its report presented to the House on March 1, was of the opinion that Mrs. Gandhi's remarks did "cast aspersions and attribute motives tending to undermine the dignity and authority of the Parliament and thus, strictly construed, they amount to a breach of privilege and contempt of the House." Four members of the Congress party in the Committee did not agree with the verdict.

The Committee, although warned Mrs. Gandhi to be more careful in the future, felt that the matter be dropped and no further action be taken in view of the "totality of the circumstances" under which the comments were made by her. The Committee was, however, not "fully satisfied" with the explanations given by Mrs. Gandhi.

The 15 member privileges committee examined the matter which was referred to it by the Lok Sabha after the matter was raised by a Janata member of Paliament.

Reacting to a statement made by the Home Minister in the Lok Sabha in which reference was made to an alleged plan or thinking in her government to shoot down opposition leaders in jail, Mrs. Gandhi said: "This is the very limit in malicious propaganda, deliberately carried by some leaders of the Janata Party ... the whole idea is outrageous and could occur only to one who himself thinks along these lines."

H.V.R. IYENGAR DEAD

Bangalore - H.V.R. Iyengar, former Governor of the Reserve Bank, died here Wednesday, February 22 after a heart attack. He was 76.

Iyengar was the first personal secretary to Jawaharlal Nehru and also served as secretary in the Ministries of Home, Finance and Commerce and Industry.

Ambassadors reshuffled

New Delhi - As many as 30 transfers and promotions involving the re-shuffle of many Ambassadors will be announced shortly. This is said to be a bunch of routine transfers. Interestingly, this was finalised between the Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister, Atal Behari Vajpayee, during their flight to Sydney recently.

The Secretary in charge of Economic Relations in the External Affairs Ministry, V.K. Ahuja, is being appointed as Ambassador to Iran in place of K.R.P. Singh, who goes to Vienna as Ambassador to Austria and India's representative at the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The Additional Secretary in charge of Administration, Thomas Abraham, is being sent as High Commissioner to Sri Lanka and the present incumbent in Colombo, Gurbachan Singh, takes the place of Magbool Ahmed who is retiring shortly as High Commissioner to Canada.

Another Additional Secretary, A.K. Damodaran, who has been closely associated with the Policy Planning Division, goes to Rome as the next Ambassador to Italy in place of Mrs. Rukmani Menon, who is being transferred to Accra as High Commissioner of Ghana.

The present High Commissioner in Accra, Miss Muthamma, is being re-assigned as the next Ambassador to Mexico.

The other diplomatic postings covered by the latest changes include the appointment of Alfred Gonsalves, a Joint Secretary now attached to the Economic Affairs Department of the Finance Ministry, as High Commissioner to Tanzania. N.P. Alexander, who is now Ambassador in Rangoon, as the next envoy to Sweden, A.N. Ray, Joint Secretary, as Ambassador to Rumania and another senior officer as Ambassador to Greece where India is opening a resident mission soon.

There is some talk that U.S. Bajpai, presently in Geneva as India's representative to the U.N. organisations there.

Then there are political appointments like I.K. Gujral in Moscow, who may not want to be away too long from active public life. He is too young and too active to keep away for too long from Parliament if he can help it. He will probably explore the possibilities of his entry to the Rajya Sabha during the coming biennian elections.

Are women more honest

New Delhi — Very soon all railway reservation offices, traditional dens of corruption, will be "manned" by women in a novel bid to fight corruption.

The Railway Ministry's decision announced recently to replace men by women at railway booking offices in metropolitan cities is bound to cause a certain amount of resentment and heart-bruning among the male staff.

That women are more honest than men is proposition that may be open to challenge, as most generalisations of this kind are. What is less open to challenge, however, is the belief that women are more likely to shrink from wrongful action than man, not so much because of the wrongness of the action as because of the penal consequences that follow if the culprit is found out. In the case of a woman the sequel to such exposure, the consequent disgrace and humiliation are harder to bear, are less easily forgiven. And therefore there is less likelihood of the risks being undertaken.

Many in India will be watching the progress of the new experiment. Much is at stake, the future of women's official careers, and the validity of the current belief that women generally show a higher sense of duty and professional rectitude.

In the early days when women first began to enter the employment market in India there was a certain reluctance to accept them. And for a long time employers also resisted the principle of equal pay for equal work. Today most Indian employers would agree that in the matter of routine jobs in offices or repetitive jobs in factories — and most jobs are of this nature — women have given a good account of themselves.

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For students. For people returning to India.
For relatives. Now you've got it.
There are a couple of restrictions. First, tickets must be purchased at least seven days in advance. Second, there's a 10% cancellation charge if you change your mind.
Here are examples of fares from various Canadian locations (all flights via New York) which are effective until May 31, 1978:
Toronto–$616. Montreal–$559. Halifax–$627. Ottawa–$588. Winnipeg–$677.
Calgary/Edmonton–$740. Regina–$711. Vancouver–$765.
Usual children's and infant's discount applies.
Return fares from Bombay and Delhi are slightly higher.
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Six Months $4.50
One Year $7.
Two years $12.

OTHER COUNTRIES:
One Year by Air Mail $14.

CAFIK'S REMARKS

Recently the Minister for Multiculturalism Norman Cafik, the most energetic and capable Minister Multiculturalism has ever had, came to address the Indo-Canadians in Ottawa as reported elsewhere. The minister often did not stick to his prepared text and as a result some of the minister's prejudices towards Indo-Canadians came out during the speech. He cautioned the newcomers not to advance too fast, demanding positions of power and prestige in the community. If Indo-Canadians do that many Canadians would complain that we are trying to run the country after two or three years here. What a ridiculous statement!

Indo-Canadians have been here since the turn of the century - not two or three years. Probably the minister does not know that the vast majority of Indo-Canadians who are here are very well educated. The minister does not even know (probably does not care either) approximately how many Indo-Canadians are here. At the speech he quoted 70,000 in 1971. Could not his staff even add up the immigration figures from 1971 to 1978?

The attitude of the minister of multiculturalism seems to be this. People of non-English, non-French origins with the exception of South Asians are ready, willing and able to become members of Federal Government Commissions and Boards and other positions of power and prestige. People of South Asian origin should wait out their turn and someday in the future, may be 100 years from now may be 200 years, their turn will come.

How can this view be compatible with the view of equality of opportunity? How can this position help to improve the image of Indo-Canadians and similar-skinned people? How can this view be tolerated coming from the mouth of the Minister for Multiculturalism.

Recently it was seen from a Toronto study that people of Eastern and Southern European origins are more prejudiced towards coloured people than the people of other origins. Does the ministers Ukranian background account for his views? The Minister for Multiculturalism very badly needs some multicultural education!

More dollars for travel

Bombay - The Reserve Bank of India has marginally raised the foreign exchange entitlement for Indian businessmen travelling abroad.

For the purpose of grant of foreign exchange, businessmen are under existing rules divided into "senior" and "junior". Senior businessmen will now get $85 instead of $80 per day, while Junior businessmen will get $65 instead of $60.

There are higher limits for certain regions and countries. For example, the limit for the Western hemisphere and certain West Asian countries is now $100 for seniors and $75 for juniors. For those going to Britain, Europe, Iran and Japan the limits are $95 and $70 respectively.

A special rate of $120 and $90 for the two categories will be allowed for Saudi Arabia and Nigeria because of the exceptionally high cost of living in these countries.

Exchange release for entertainment purposes has been raised from $300 to $500 and from $150 to $250 for the two categories. Travelling salesmen going abroad will also get $250 for entertainment purposes.

Ghana law book presented

New Delhi, Mar. 14 (Samachar) Mr. Paul Duah, High Commissioner of Ghana in India, has said any Indian lawyer with five years' experience is entitled to practice in his country.

Presenting a 31-volume set of the Ghana law report to the Delhi high court bar, Mr. Duah said the principles of law being identical in the two countries, it was very essential that there should be close cooperation and exchange of ideas between lawyers and judges.

Letters

Kidnapping by immigration officers

Both my wife and I sponsored a relative of ours for a maximum period of four months to stay with us, visit some of his friends in Canada, and look around a bit some parts of the country. As he arrived at the Dorval airport from New York on 26 September 1977, he was heldup in the detention centre. I pleaded with the Chief Inquiry Officer, one Mr. Lapointe that he be released, and that I was willing to sign any conditions for his release, and that I guarantee that he will leave within the period of four months. I also asked him on what grounds he was detaining him and why he decided to deport him. He said: "I suspect his bonafide, and I suspect that he may so much like the country that he may decide to stay here." I said: "No way. He has to go back before the expiry of his return ticket valid for a maximum period of 120 days. I give you all assurances and am prepared to sign any bond to the effect that he will go back." But the officer in question did not agree, did not trust me either, and added that he would put him on the plane by the first flight available, and that his decision to do so was irreversible. I asked him if he could not change his decision if I gave him all guarantees required for his return. He said: "No, my decision is irreversible."

Naturally I became quite upset. We had paid his return fare $992 (from Delhi to Quebec City and back), and undertaken to stand all his expense during his stay with us, and as long as he was in Canada. This was not enough for the Chief Inquiry Officer to change his mind or reverse his decision. I said: "Are you sure your decision is irreversible?" He said: Yes." At once I engaged a lawyer, one Harry Blank, who also turned out to be a member of Quebec's National Assembly. He moved into the matter, and he assured me that he would have the young man released the next day and have him personally put on the flight to Quebec City, but that his fee for this whole thing would be $500. I said: "Mr. Blank, $500 is too much for this kind of case." He answered: "You know these are days of inflation, and laughed." I said: "Would you not accept $200/$300 ?" He said: "No." Anyway, seeing no other choice in the matter, I agreed to pay him $500 on the condition that he would have the young man released, which he did. I also paid another $500 for the young man's bail. The young man was released pending the decision of the Federal Court. Two months later we received a letter from Harry Blank saying that our appeal in the said Court was dismissed. We also were telphoned by the local Immigration Office in Quebec City that the order for Darshan Singh Yadav's deportation stands and that he would have to leave the country before the 1st Dec. 1977, which Darshan Singh did, anyway. (Incidentally, Darshan Singh Yadav is our son-in-law).

This whole affair leaves a very bitter taste in one's mouth, and a very bitter memory in one's mind. One wonders with what kind of people Canada's Department of Immigration is manned; how completely unreasonable they can be, if a visitor happens to have a brown or black skin; they pounce on him at once, suspect his bonafide. I am sure such an instance would not have taken place, if the visitor were a whiteman from the British Isles, or France, or a white member from a white Commonwealth country. What kind of Commonwealth is there? Who is this Commonwealth for? What is Common in it? — surely not wealth and surely not justice. In my own view, the officer's behaviour was most atrocious, unreasonable and condemnable, and the lawyer's conduct that of a mercenary and of a person who takes an undue advantage of an unfortunate situation, to say the least. And who knows there may even be a collusion and a conspiracy between some of these Immigration Officers and some of these lawyers to share the spoils of such broad day-light piracy at Canada's international airports.

Is there anything that can be done to remedy the victimization of innocent visitors to their relatives, leave out the friends? Such actions on the part of some of these officers are a slur on the fair name of Canada as a democratic country, and as a member of the so-called Commonwealth. I consider the whole affair is a disgrace to Canada and the Commonwealth of which it is a member; and I very much hope that our legislators in state, provincial and national assemblies round all the Commonwealth countries will take a serious note of what is going on in the Immigration Offices of a member-country of this Commonwealth. And I further hope that even ordinary citizens in these countries will become aware of it, and demand action through all appropriate channels to have such injustices and discriminations put an end to.

Ram Singh
Charlottoug, Que.

Sunil Gavaskar and Sharda Sangeswamy [both cricket] with their Arjuna Awards [75-76], the highest award for excellence in sports.

Jana

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi: The Budget es
tes for 1978-79 presente
Parliament by the Finance M
ter, H.M. Patel, shows a def
Rs. 1050 crores inspite
additional taxation to ne
549.5 crores.

A special duty equal to
percent of the basic duty on
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tariff proposed in the budg
recover Rs. 214 crores
resulted in an increase i
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However, power for ag
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These concessions have
announced in tune with
Janata party's election man
placing stress on agricu
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In his budget speech
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bold step

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While admitting the fa
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current financial year anti
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as against Rs. 84 crores pr
in the original estimate
attributed the cause
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when we took office. Pr
1976-77 went up by over
cent. In a year in which rea
national produce increas
less than 2 per cent,
supply went up by 20 pe
Thus at the beginning of 1
the economy was faced
massive excess of liquidity
threatened to unleash a
bout of inflation," he said

M.Ps of the ruling
cheered the Finance Mini
he claimed at the outset th
whole sale price index is
lower than the level inher
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n officers

... France, or a white member ...om a white Commonwealth ...untry. What kind of Common... ...ealth is there?. Who is this ...ommonwealth for? What is ...ommon in it? — surely not ...ealth and surely not justice. In ...y own view, the officer's ...haviour was most injurious, ...reasonable and condemnable; ...d the lawyer's conduct that of a ...ercenary and of a person who ...kes an undue advantage of an ...fortunate situation, to say the ...ast. And who knows there may ...en be a collusion and a ...nspiracy between some of these ...migration Officers and some of ...ese lawyers to share the spoils ... such broad daylight piracy at ...nada's international airports.

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Ram Singh
Charlesbourg, Que.

Janata's deficit budget

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi: The Budget estimates for 1978-79 presented to Parliament by the Finance Minister, H.M. Patel, shows a deficit of Rs. 1050 crores inspite of an additional taxation to net Rs. 549.5 crores.

A special duty equal to five percent of the basic duty on items covered by the central excise tariff proposed in the budget to recover Rs. 214 crores has resulted in an increase in the already high prices of consumer good like petrol, cigarettes, synthetic and superfine textiles, large size refrigerators, airconditioners, cosmetics, tea, sugar, kerosene and several other items.

However, power for agricultural uses, newspapers and periodicals, pesticides, weedicides and fungicides, medicines and other items have escaped the tax net. While bank interest rate has been slashed, several incentives for investments in new companies and buildings and encouragement for savings have been provided. These concessions have been announced in tune with the Janata party's election manefesto placing stress on agriculture, development of rural sector and small industries.

In his budget speech the Finance Minister expressed confidence that the price line will be maintained and inflationary tendency arrested inspite of the deficit financing. "The economic situation of the country is exceptionally favourable at present for a bold step forward. This budget is such a step," he said while the Members of Parliament belonging to the ruling party applauded the bold step.

Bold step

In taking the bold step the Finance Minister has relied heavily on the comfortable foreign exchange reserve and also in food grains. He showed optimism that the gross national product will register a satisfactory growth of 5 per cent in the current year as compared to 1.6 per cent in 1976-77. Good weather coupled with increased irrigation potential increased use of fertilisers, pesticides and high yielding variety of seeds, would increase agricultural production by 10 percent.

Regarding the foreign exchange reserve, he made particular reference to the continued remittances by Indians abroad. "The country's foreign exchange reserves have risen further, despite an increase in imports, because of continued inward remittances and a small surplus on trade account," he said in justification for drawing on these reserves for internal development "by a poor country like India."

While admitting the fact that the revised estimates for the current financial year anticipated a budgetary gap of Rs. 975 crores as against Rs. 84 crores provided in the original estimates, he attributed the cause to the inflationary situation prevailed in the past. "We inherited a highly explosive inflationary situation when we took office. Prices in 1976-77 went up by over 11 per cent. In a year in which real gross national product increased by less than 1 per cent, money supply went up by 20 per cent. Thus at the beginning of 1977-78, the economy was faced with a massive excess of liquidity which threatened to unleash a fresh bout of inflation," he said.

M.Ps of the ruling party cheered the Finance Minister as he claimed at the outset that "the whole sale price index is today lower than the level inherited by us from the previous government."

Mr. Patel said that a year was too short a period to make any serious impression on the gigantic problems in the economy of the country and expressed confidence that the line being pursued by his government would bring about necessary increase in output and employment. A new strategy for development would be available in the new sixth plan to be ready in 9 months time.

The following are some of the major tax proposals:

Gold: Gold is to be sold from government stocks to end smuggling. Import of gold will be allowed against export of gold jewellery. The export of jewellery is highly labour- intensive and "will gainfully employ the undoubted craftsmanship of Indian jewellers."

Postal Rates: Postal tariff in certain items like registration, will go up. But this will not affect the common man's postal articles like post cards, inland letters and postal envelopes.

Savings: Compulsory deposit rates for income-tax payers above Rs. 15,000 per annum would be re-introduced.

Capital: New industrial undertakings will get support to attract capital in the proposal to give deductible in the computation of taxable income of 50 percent of the amount invested in their equity shares.

Indians Abroad: Indian citizens employed abroad may now stay on in India for 89 days in a year without attracting tax liability.

Small Scale Units: About 24,000 small-scale units would be given relief from excise control. This covers 69 specified items.

Films: Reduction in excise duty granted on colour films.

Cinema: Relief granted on specified items of cinematograph machinery, electronic components and imported feature films.

Yarn: Import duty on polyester filament yarn raised form 120 to 200 percent "ad valorem" to protect Indian industry.

Capital Goods: Custom duties on specified items of capital equipment not produced indigenously will be reduced from 40 to 25 percent.

Wasteful Expenditure: Extravagant and socially wasteful expenditure on advertisement, publicity and sales promotion would be disallowed from taxable profits.

PLAN OUTLAY

The total outlay on the annual plans of the Centre, States and Union Territories for 1978-79 has been increased from Rs. 9,960 crores to Rs. 11649 crores.

This represents an increase of 17 per cent as compared to last year.

For the first time in many years, the states and Union Territories' Plan together will be larger than the Central Plan.

Election standings

Assembly elections in the States of Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Meghalaya and the Union territory of Arunachal Pradesh were held on February 25, 1978.

Congress (I) has secured an absolute majority in the Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka State Assemblies.

According to the election results available, the party position is as follows:

KARNATAKA

Total Seats	224
Results declared	224
Janata	59
Congress	2
Congress (I)	149
C.P.I.	3
Others	11

ANDHRA PRADESH

Total Seats	294
Results declared	293
Janata	60
Congress	30
Congress (I)	175
C.P.I.	5
CPI(M)	8
Independents	15

MAHARASHTRA

Total Seats	288
Results declared	288
Janata	99
Congress	69
Congress (I)	6
C.P.I.(M)	4
PWP	13
Independents	19
Others	18

ASSAM

Total Seats	126
Results declared	120
Janata	50
Congress	24
Congress(I)	8
C.P.I.	5
C.P.I.(M)	11
Independents	12
Others	10

MECHALAYA

Total Seats	60
Results declared	60
Congress	20
A.P.H.L.	6
H.S.P.D.P.	14
P.D.I.C.	2
Others	10
J.N.U.	1
Independents	7

The results of Arunachal Pradesh elections are awaited.

Are the poor more honest

New Delhi: Are the poor more honest than the better off citizen? This eternal question is being asked following an incident here.

Ombir, an auto-rickshaw driver, returned to a passenger a briefcase containing Rs. 10,000 in cash the latter had left in his vehicle.

Mohammad Masood, a resident of Old Delhi, had hired Ombir's auto-rickshaw from Connaught Place to his residence. On reaching his house Masood paid off Ombir and he drove off.

After some time Masood realised that he had lost his briefcase. He rushed to the police station and reported the loss.

He had lost all hope of finding the briefcase. He returned home virtually in tears.

When he got back home, however, he was delighted to find that in his absence the auto-rickshaw driver had come and returned the briefcase with the cash intact.

Masood would like to reward the driver. But Ombir left no address.

MOVING ?
If you are moving send us promptly your new address.

FACING RACISM

Taking the initiative in social situations

You are in a social situation. Someone makes a racial slur which you find offensive. What do you do? You are likely to make some assumptions about the risks in speaking up.

I'LL LEAVE MYSELF OPEN FOR FURTHER ATTACK
NO ONE WILL SUPPORT ME!
I'LL LOOK STUPID.
I'LL JUST MAKE IT WORSE
I'LL BE LAUGHED AT!
THEY'LL SAY I'M A TROUBLE MAKER.

The stronger your need to be liked and accepted, the less likely you are to risk rejection by speaking out.

I AM A UNIQUE INDIVIDUAL... AND SO IS EVERYONE ELSE
BEING DIFFERENT DOESN'T MAKE ME WRONG.
I'M PROUD OF WHAT I AM!
IT IS IMPORTANT FOR ME TO STAND UP FOR MYSELF
I HAVE TO LIKE THE PERSON I LIVE WITH... ME!
I NEED TO BE HONEST.

The stronger your need to be honest, to value yourself and others as unique individuals, the more likely you are to risk expressing a different attitude or opinion.

By Doris Stern and Helen Markesteyn of Hamilton

Drawings by Lynn Johnston

Sentimental voyage for a son

New Delhi, Mar. 10 (Samachar) Forty six year old Bob McDonald, a Sydney businessman, left here Wednesday for Port Blair on a sentimental voyage in search of his only son Glenn, who has been missing after being caught in the cyclone over the Bay of Bengal thirteen weeks ago while yachting his way to Singapore from Galle in Sri Lanka with five others.

Driven by supreme faith, supported by robust commonsense and armed with permission from the highest authority in India, Bob plans to scour the three hundred and fifty odd islands in Andaman and Nicobar, most of them uninhabited, to find twenty three year old Glenn, eldest of his three children.

After repeated appeals in vain to the Indian authorities for permission to visit the offshore islands, Bob made a frantic bid to break through the security barrier while Prime Minister Morarji Desai was in Sydney and succeeded in winning his sympathy and permission to visit the hitherto prohibited islands.

Bob spent almost a day at the Sydney Hilton Hotel, at times on tenter hooks, wondering whether his tale of woe will move the burly, icy and hardened federal security men into allowing him to the fortyfirst floor where the Indian prime minister and his delegation was staying. He was in two minds, Bob said whether or not to give a ring from the lounge, for he was too weak to stand 'no' for an answer.

To his pleasant surprise, when he did take a chance and identified himself over the telephone, the voice at the other end said: "Mcdonald, where have you been. I have been looking for you all over the place after reading the newspaper report. The Prime Minister will receive you at five p.m. (local time)".

Bob could wait no further and he was there on the dot escorted by securitymen for what he believed was his date with destiny.

Glenn with five others, two of hem girls, set out on a yacht, The Crusader, from the Sri Lanka port on November 9 and lost contact a week later when the raging cyclone blew off his mast together with the radio aerial. He had a powerful radio transmitter, but it had become inoperative as water gushed into the boat submerging the batteries.

While families of other occupants had given up after U.S. naval aircraft made an abortive search, Bob has held steadfast belief that Glenn is alive in one of the islands. On the basis of the last message picked up from the yacht by an amateur American radio operator in Thailand, Bob pored over maps and ocean charts to pinpoint the location where the yacht could have got into distress, roughly three hundred miles West of Nicobar Islands. All that he needed was permission from the Indian authorities to visit the islands, which was not forthcoming until his meeting Mr. Desai on the fortyfirst floor of Sydney Hilton last Thursday. Moved by Bob's anguish, Mrs. Desai assured him that no effort would be spared in locating Glenn if he was in one of the islands. The Prime Minister also offered to allow Bob to undertake the search himself.

The opportunity to live, learn and share your heritage is one way you can help make Canada stronger. Don't miss it!

Your Opportunity

Multiculturalism is a permanent government policy which affects every aspect of Canadian life. Through multicultural programmes, your Canadian government encourages people of diverse cultural backgrounds to put their ideas, skills and talents to work to benefit themselves, their own community and all Canadians. Take the opportunity to enrich your own life and help make Canada stronger.

The Reality of Multiculturalism

Multicultural policy does more than provide assistance to ethnic-cultural groups. There is a horizontal dimension to the policy which impacts on all activities of the federal government, to ensure that there is a coordination of federal policy which truly reflects the multicultural reality of Canada and the concerns of the ethnic-cultural community.

The Multiculturalism Directorate encourages the media to depict the reality of cultural life accurately.

One of the roles of the Minister of Multiculturalism is to ensure equal opportunity for all Canadians regardless of their cultural background for in Canada we are all equal.

A New Spirit of Understanding

The question of national unity demands the attention of all Canadian cultural groups. The isolation of any cultural group makes Canada weaker. In the search for a new understanding, it is essential that all cultural groups study the issues and speak out, because we all share in Canada's future.

The Challenge of Multiculturalism

It often takes difficult times to make people realize that working together is the only way to solve common problems. Join with your government. Join with all Canadians. Do your own part to make Canada an example to the world: a multicultural, bilingual nation where all citizens can live in harmony and prosperity in a spirit of mutual respect and understanding. Live, learn and share your heritage to help make Canada stronger.

To present your views or to request information, write to:

Multiculturalism
16th Floor
66 Slater Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0M5

Multiculturalism

unity in diversity

Honourable Norman Cafik
Minister of State
Multiculturalism

L'honorable Norman Cafik
Ministre d'État
Multiculturalisme

Ca

[Excerpts from an address Honourable Norma Cafik, M.P. Minister of State for culturalism to the N Association of Canadia Origins in India — Ott March 1978]

"I am very pleased honoured to be here toni the beginning of this confe to zero in on some very issues concerning the Rights, and the contributio you have made and will m our society. There is no whatsoever, that the contr that the Canadians of origin have made to our since you first came here ab years ago, is as substant important; and as impress that of any other gorup th ever come to Canada. All who look at our nation objec can feel nothing but pric appreciation for the qualiti you have brought to it.

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I think some people ethnocultural comm perceive multiculturalism token gesture towards a our people, to offset the i the French/English ques purely administrative ter budget of multiculturalism million dollars a year com Canada's entire budget billion. Looking at it economic terms one would conclude otherwise, how you conclude thusly, th

Cafik speaks

(Excerpts from an address by the Honourable Norman Cafik, P.C., M.P. Minister of State for Multiculturalism to the National Association of Canadians of Origins in India — Ottawa 3 March 1978)

"I am very pleased and honoured to be here tonight, at the beginning of this conference, to zero in on some very central issues concerning the Human Rights, and the contribution that you have made and will make to our society. There is no doubt, whatsoever, that the contribution that the Canadians of Indian origin have made to our society since you first came here about 75 years ago, is as substantial, as important, and as impressive, as that of any other gorup that has ever come to Canada. All of us who look at our nation objectively can feel nothing but pride and appreciation for the qualities that you have brought to it.

I will talk specifically about two subject areas: Bilingualism and Multiculturalism. In terms of the fundamental nature of Canada, however, I would emphasize four points rather than two. Bilingualism or two official languages and multiculturalism really flow from two other central principles, and it seems to me that Canada can be best understood in relationship to those four principles.

We don't say to those who come and make this their home as citizens, that they need to check their baggage at the border and leave behind their cultural background, their language, and their traditions. They're free to bring them into Canada, not only so that they can as individual Canadians fulfil themselves and their own potential, but so that all of us in Canada will benefit from sharing that richness and that background, with one another.

It is not good enough to simply have a policy of multiculturalism. It means absolutely nothing without enthusiastic support by all Canadians, and it will not survive if the two major linguistic groups in this country do not understand and appreciate the need for that policy. We cannot spend all of our time talking to ourselves, talking to the converters. I dare to say that there would be very few in this room, who do not support multiculturalism, but there are many outside of this room who don't understand what multiculturalism is. If we want our society to continue in this direction then we have an obligation to communicate what this dimension of the Canadian reality is all about.

I think that most people from the ethnocultural communities of this country whether they be originally from Ukraine, Poland, India, China, Pakistan, whether they come from Africa or anywhere in this wide world, have tried to preserve the values inherited from their homeland and from their parents and want to pass those values on to others. If we want that so badly then surely we, above all Canadians, can understand the Francophone who has the same kind of fear of cultural and linguistic assimilation. Their arguments are the same as your arguments and if there are any groups in Canada that have common, fundamental interests, it is the ethnocultural community and the Francophones.

I think some people in the ethnocultural communities perceive multiculturalism as a token gesture towards a third of our people, to offset the impact of the French/English question. In purely administrative terms, the budget of multiculturalism is 10 million dollars a year compared to Canada's entire budget of 45 billion. Looking at it only in economic terms one would hardly conclude otherwise, however, if you conclude thusly, then you don't understand the essential nature of the policy.

As Minister, I would like to explain the two dimensions of multiculturalism as I see them. Within the vertical dimension, it is my task to provide modest assistance and encouragement to the ethnocultural communities so that they may be able to preserve their past, their traditions, and their culture. Now, bear in mind that for 100 years prior to the institution of this policy ethnocultural groups have existed in Canada and have maintained

their cultural ties, and values. I think it is important to know that the Government of Canada has no obligation directly, in terms of funding, to preserve the cultural backgrounds.

The only reason that these cultures are maintained is because the peoples who hold these traditions want to retain them. They largely do it themselves, voluntarily and enthusiastically. It is not my intent to become so generous with the cheque book, that I create cultural dependency on the Government of Canada. Surely, that would be the fastest way to destroy the policy. The cultures are real, they're living, they're vibrant, and they're alive because they are rooted in the hearts and in the minds of the people. I don't think they want this cultural background to be preserved by some group of pseudo-professionals or professionals working for the government.

In questions of immigration, family reunification, and citizenship, it is my job to be your voice in the Government of Canada, in the decision making process. We are going to create a society, in which all Canadians have equal opportunity. I want to ensure, for instance, that Canadians of whatever background know that they have an opportunity to serve, through appointments made by the Government of Canada, on national boards, crown corporations and the judiciary. It's not good enough to have the right balance of Francophones and Anglophones on a board; I want to know where all Canadians are.

You know a few weeks ago I had a meeting in Toronto, which I requested of the Canadian Consultative Council of Multiculturalism, relating to the problems of visible minorities. It is imperative that I understand all the studies and reports that have been written on the problems of visible minorities in Canada. It is imperative that, I, as Minister of Multiculturalism, on behalf of the Government of Canada, make it absolutely clear that this government, and all Canadians, abhor racism of any kind. We must deal with this problem, however, in practical terms."

Cool it: Minister warns

By Jaya Subramaniam.

The NACOI (National Association of Canadians of Origins in India) conference on our contribution to Canada, our rights and our Image in Canada was held on March 3-4, 1978 in Ottawa.

The conference started off with a banquet at the Railway Committee room of the centre block of the Parliament buildings. Navin Parekh, Chairperson, NACOI Ottawa chapter welcomed the gathering. The keynote speaker The Honorable Norman Cafik, Minister of Multiculturalism was introduced by Joycie Braithwaite of the Ottawa-Carleton Immigrant Services.

The minister in his address advised the audience that the way to fight racism is to play it "cool". He said newcomers from other parts of the world have worked patiently to earn respect. It is a two-way street, he added, we have to work together to create positive attitudes and build strong, hard base of mutual respect. He said if the newcomers try to advance too fast it inflames some people and they would think these people are trying to run us after being here two or three years.

He said the government realises the problems and fears of South Asian community and will continue to abhor racism in this country. He talked about the importance of equal opportunities and opportunity to serve on various boards and agencies.

He said, a good number of Canadians do not understand multiculturalism. "A policy of multiculturalism means nothing unless it is supported by all Canadians. Mr. Cafik remarked that some Anglo-phones and Franco-phones have their fears about this policy. He said his department is doing a lot to promote multiculturalism. He stressed the importance of some changes in the area of education, the role of the media in presenting a more positive image. Mr. Cafik said " if we can't learn to understand and live together in respect and dignity, not only will Canada fail - the whole world will fail."

In his vote of thanks Professor V. Subramaniam pointed out that India has been very successful in running a multicultural society for many years.

The following day the conference was held at Fanteux Hall, University of Ottawa and was fairly well attended.

Reviewing the conference at its conclusion Professor Spellman of the University of Windsor virtually congratulated the participants from the floor on their gargantuan appetite for listening to insulting and irrelevant advice. Even if this comment was a little overdone for the conference as a whole, it was just appropriate for the panel on "Our Image" the role of the media. The three representatives of the Canadian media Azhar Ali Khan, Editorial Writer, Ottawa Citizen, Paul Taylor, Managing Editor, Newsradio Ltd., and Al MacKay, Managing Editor, CJOH TV News, projected a self-righteous image of themselves and got away with it. One of them gratuitously explained to people coming from "dictatorial" regimes that a "free" press was not controlled by government policy. The audience was too polite to protest immediately. The other two elaborated how the media was governed by audience reaction for survival and profit and cannot put on multicultural programs just for holy merit. The discussant Dr. Dehejia hit the nail on the head with telling instances of virtual exclusion of Indian staff and Indian topics but to no purpose. Olga Ghosh citing of a glaring example of racist reporting was dismissed as proper quotation of existing prejudices by the panelists. One of them tried to lighten the atmosphere in regard to Canadian disinterest in, and ignorance of, India, by adding that Canadians don't know much about Canada. The discussion was kept well under their control by the panelists and Professor Subramaniam's point about the financial vulnerability of the Canadian press was lost.

The panelists should have been very happy about getting their way - and none of them remained to hear Prof. Spellman's summing up.

The first panel on our contribution: challenges in a multicultural society as expected, proved to be a polite reassertion of existing positions. The panelists, Sen. Paul Yuzyk, Lewis Perinbam and Dr. Nasir Islam, said the Indian contribution to Canada was as good as any other community's. No one expected them to say anything else. Should you contribute first to get your rights recognized or can you contribute your best before your rights are fully recognized? A fine point that produced some polite comments. Dr. Samuel opened up the right question. Should we work twice as hard to advance half as much - but the point was lost in a wandering discussion. Prof. Nasir Islam produced a wealth of data about the closed Canadian society of the founding Anglo-Saxons. On the whole, this panel was not irrelevant, and many interesting viewpoints emerged.

The panel on rights: Law on Human Rights in Canada was disappointing for a rather expected reason. No knowledgeable Indian has any doubts that his legal position is safe and he has as much legal right as the next Canadian. The panelists laboured this obvious point and one spent quite a few minutes reading from the Act. Dr. Ubale Human Rights Commissioner, Ontario Human Rights Commission set the discussion aflame finally with a long list of hopes falsified and rights denied. Others joined the chorus. Of course the panelists said the right thing 'Report to us with factual details and we will do our best"!

One should not expect too much from a single conference and this was a reasonable and limited success - as far as it went. At least most Indian participants know what to expect from certain panels and panelists. They have also realized, hopefully, how misleading polite silence can be and how useless it is to pull your punches in making a point. As an exercise in mutual adult education - it went quite far. Whether the panelists learnt much from the polite audience, is a moot point. That the audience learnt much from one another is for sure.

Smith concerned about racism

By Don Butler

Toronto— Racism, health insurance premiums were on the minds of delegates as Liberals from across the province gathered here Friday for the Ontario party's annual meeting.

More than 1,100 delegates are expected to attend the three-day event.

The major event of the first day was a hearpit session which featured most members of the Liberal caucus seated at a long table in the conventioin hall.

During the hourlong accountability session, a wide varity of subjects was touched upon, but there were several questions about racism, a problem much in the public eye in the Toronto area.

One South Asian delegate from Missassauga said racism was "the number one social problem in Metro Toronto and Ontario," but he said members of the South Asian community feel that all three provincial parties are trying to avoid the issue.

POISON IN SOCIETY

Liberal leader Stuart Smith took quick exception to the criticism. "There is no leader in Ontario who has spoken out about racism more than I have," he said.

"Racism is a poison in our society," he said. "We must fight racism every time it shows its head."

IT'S NOT FAIR

Smith noted that he has opened a telephone hotline so that anyone who feels victimized by a racial incident can call and register a complaint. Smith promised he would personally investigate such incidents.

[The Citizen]

Operation Lifesafe

Did you know that a small beer contains as much alcohol as a strong drink and that six ounces or more of alcohol per day can lead to alcoholism and cause cirrhosis of the liver?

Chris is one of over 60,000 young people who'll be working for you this summer.

She'll be working in a Ministry of the Environment lab. Her job is provided through one of eight programs developed to give work experience to high school and post-secondary students as well as to young people who have finished their education. Here's how the programs work.

Ontario Youth Employment Program provides a subsidy of $1.25 per hour to encourage additional summer *youth* employment by the business and farming communities. This program is operated by the Ministry of the Treasury Subsidies Branch.

Ontario Career Action Program is a year-round program which gives career training and practical work experience to unemployed young people for up to a 26-week period. Participants are placed as trainees in the private sector and with various Ontario Government ministries. This program is administered by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

Experience '78 hires young people to work for the summer in various Ontario ministries. The jobs are designed to complement the student's academic and career goals. It's co-ordinated by the Ontario Youth Secretariat.

1978 Ontario-Quebec Summer Student Job Exchange Program places Ontario students in various Quebec Government ministries and agencies while Quebec students are placed with Ontario Government ministries and agencies. The program gives students the opportunity of increasing their knowledge of a second language and of experiencing the culture of the host province. It's operated through the Civil Service Commission.

Junior Forest Ranger Program gives Ontario students who are 17 years old a chance to gain practical experience in the management of our natural resources. It's administered by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Junior Conservationist Award Program hires students nominated through conservation-minded organizations to work in resource management. It's operated by the Ministry of Natural Resources, Conservation Authorities Branch.

Junior Agriculturalist Farm Program employs students who reside in the city to live and work on farms during the summer. It's administered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Youth Care for Senior Citizens gives municipalities the opportunity to hire young people to provide at-home services for elderly and handicapped adults. This program is co-ordinated by the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

The young people who work under these programs and those who will work as summer replacements for regular ministry staff will benefit from their experiences. All of us in Ontario will benefit from the work they do.

Ontario Youth Secretariat
Margaret Birch, Minister
Terry D. Jones, M.P.P.
Parliamentary Assistant

Government of Ontario
William G. Davis, Premier

Let's all work together to help Ontario's youth work.

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**[Excerpts from a Brief to the
Force on Canadian Unity P
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Canadian Conference Cent
Senator Paul Yuzyk]**

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New Delhi, Mar. 10 (Sa
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Ethnic groups and the Constitution

(Excerpts from a Brief to the Task Force on Canadian Unity Presented on March 2, 1978 at the Canadian Conference Centre by Senator Paul Yuzyk)

To the non-French, non-British ethno-cultural groups who are interested in preserving and perpetuating their cultures as part of the Canadian mosaic the key recommendations are numbers 27 and 28. Giving recognition to the multicultural reality of Canada the Committee states that:

The Constitution should explicitly recognize the right of Provincial Legislatures to confer equivalent status with the English and French languages on other languages. Federal financial assistance to support the teaching or use of other languages would be appropriate. In the text explaining these recommendations the Report refers to the population statistics of Canada. It is noted that during the period 1871 to 1961 the British element has declined proportionally from 60.55 per cent to 43.85 per cent, the French element has remained almost constant declining only from 31.07 per cent to 30.38 per cent, while the other ethnic groups have rapidly increased percentagewise from 8.38 in 1871 to 25.77 in 1961. "It is expected that the 1971 census will show a further increase in the percentage of Canadians who are neither British nor French, largely at the expense of the British proportion." In 1971 the proportion rose to 26.7 per cent.

Recognizing in the preamble of the new Constitution that Canada is multicultural rather than bicultural or unicultural, which seems to be an obvious fact, the Committee considers nevertheless that this "needs formal emphasis" There neither is nor should there be any official cultural in Canada. It is futher stated that:

One of the deepest aspects of our national character has been its cultural tolerance towards minority groups. Canadians do not feel the need to impose a common culture nor to divorce people from their cultural roots. All democracies allow their citizens freedom under the law, but many do not go so far as to allow cultural freedom. Canada must continue to do so, but more consciously and more effectively.

Taking into consideration that there are large groups of Canadians who speak German, Ukrainian, Italian and smaller numbers who speak many other tongues, particularly in the Prairie Provinces where some of these languages are spoken more than French, the Committee in majority approved constitutional recognition for these languages. These ethnic groups of the third element (non-British, non-French) have "made a great contribution to the development of Canada in the years since Confederation and it would be fitting to recognize it in the Constitution." One way of recognizing this contribution is to regard their languages not as foreign but give them the status of Canadian languages as an integral part of the Canadian linguistic fact.

LANGUAGE RIGHTS OF ETHNIC GROUPS

Realizing that there are inherent limitations of constitutional provisions respecting languages, the Committee has decided that since the languages of the third element ethnic groups are "regional rather than national" in the context of Canada it would therefore be appropriate that specific recognition be given to them at the provincial level. This recommendation would confer no additional rights upon the provinces, for by section 92(1) of the B.N.A. Act, they already possess the power to amend their own constitutions and by section 93 they have the power to make laws in relation to education. Several of these languages are already taught in the elementary and secondary public schools and at the universities of some of the provinces. The committee advises that:

The Constitution should therefore provide in its section on language rights that Provincial Legislatures may confer rights on other language groups with respect to use in the Legislatures themselves, or in government administration, the courts, and education in publicly-supported schools.

The obvious conclusion is that where it would now be impractical to make official other languages besides English and French, there is nothing in the constitution to prevent them from achieving official status in the provinces and this is even encouraged. It is made clear that the officiality of English and French "does not confer any priority with respect to culture."

Since the new Constitution would recognize bilingualism and multiculturalism it is logical that this fact be appropriately reflected also in the policies of the provincial governmetns, including educational policies (see Chapter 99 on Education). This means that the Federal Government must have certain obligations in this respect to the provincial governmetns. The Report therefore concludes thus:

Moreover, where a Province confers a particular public right upon a language group, it would be appropriate for the Federal Government to provide a measure of financial assistance. By doing so, it would help the Provinces to provide a valuable public service to a gorup of citizens."

Sanskrit classics in Russian

New Delhi, Mar. 10 (Samachar) Kumara Sambhava" of Kalidasa and "Geeta Govinda" of Jayadev have been translated into Russian for the first time in the USSR and incorporated in the "library of world literature" series.

With the release of the book "The classical poetry of India, China, Korea, Vietnam and Japan," the publication of the 200th volume of "library of world literature" series has concluded.

Works of famous Tamil poetess Auveyar and poet Kapilar and the Bengali poetry "Charya Giti" find a place in the Indian Section. The Soviet reader can also find "the 700 poems" (sattasai) by Hala, one of the earliest specimens of lyric poetry in Prakrit translated for the first time. Also available here are the verse by Sheykh Farid, the founder of Punjabi literature, verses by Kahsmir poetess Lal-ded songs of Vidyapati, Chandidas and the works of Kabir, Sudas, Mirabai, Tulsidas, Tukaram and Mirza Ghalib.

"Mahabharata" and "Ramayana" are maintained in separate volumes, as also "the classical drama of the East" which included Indian plays. Each of the 200 volumes has been printed in over 300,000 copies and the publishers are thinking of making an additional print to meet the demand.

Nehru's protege in Jaipur

By George Mathew

New Delhi: Jawaharlal Nehru's one time portege, Shradha Mata, a Sanskrit scholar well-versed in ancient Indian scriptures and mythology, has been traced in the pink city of Jaipur in Rajasthan, says a report.

The 65-year old sanyasin has been living in the historic Nathroi Fort since 1954 along with some of her desciples including one Barbara Hutton, 33, an art teacher from London. The 1500-year-old Fort was donated to her by Maharaja Man Singh of Jaipur, one of her devotees.

M.O. Mathai, Nehru's Private Secretary, in his book "Reminiscences of the Nehru Age" had stated thus: "Shardha Mata (assumed name) was a sanyasini, young, shapely and beautiful. She was granted an interview with Nehru at the instance of an old employee who introduced her as a scholar well-versed in ancient Indian scriptures and mythology. Meetings with her became rather frequent, mostly after Nehru finished his work at midnight. Suddenly she disappeared and some months later a convent in Bangalore sent a decent looking man to Delhi with a bundle of letters. He said that a young woman from northern India arrived at the convent a few months ago and gave birth to a baby boy. When she left the convent leaving the boy behind she forgot to carry her small bundle which contained a number of letters in Hindi..."

According to reports from Jaipur Shradha Mata has written a 60-page book, in reply to Mathai's book, which is under print. She confirmed her connections with Nehru during 1948-58. When she first met Nehru she was 35-year-old and confirmed to the description about her given in Mathai's book.

But her version of the story is different. It was Nehru who got interested in her after having read about her and seen her photographs. Their meeting place was either Nehru's residence or her own house. It is also true that they exchanged letters but her letters gave Nehru the moral support when he was leading a troubled land at a troubled time, she claims.

While Mathai had expressed his misgivings about Shradha Mata's mysticism and spiritulism, the sanyasini says Nehru received her knowledge through her spiritual discourses. Speculations about their contacts did not affect the warmth of their relationship.

She is reported to be visibly sore about Mathai's disclosures and termed him as a "namak harami bawakoof" and a parasite like the one originates from the filth of great souls and exist on the substantial grace of those souls.

Mystery surrounds the bundle of Nehru's letters received from a convent in Bangalore. Shradha Mata is reported to have stated that some of Nehru's letters were stolen from her ashram in Delhi by a woman who resembled her features. Her marriage in 1932 lasted only for 50 days and she never gave birth to a child. This statement brings to light another mystery. Was it another woman who gave birth to a baby boy in a Bangalore convent?

A report from Bangalore says that it was Dr. Karam Chand Ved, 85, and English professor living in Cantown, who brought Nehru's letters to Delhi some time in 1949. Dr. Ved's version of the story goes like this.

On 15 May, 1949, a pregnant woman came to Bangalore. She happened to meet Mrs. Esakiel, a doctor, at the railway station. Feeling pity for her plight, Dr. Esakiel took her home and got her a rented house nearby. In a couple of days she was admitted to a Roman Catholic hospital in the town where she gave birth to a child after a fortnight. The child died at birth. After her discharge from hospital in a few days the lady continued to stay for some time in the rented house in Binson town. She borrowed Rs. 600.00 from Dr. Esakiel and returned to Delhi in June 1949, promising to return the money after she reached Delhi.

Dr. Esakiel found a bundle of letters in the house where the lady was living. She read one of them out of curiosity and it was written by Nehru on March 2, 1948 from Government House, Lucknow. Having failed to get any reply from the woman from her Delhi address, Dr. Esakiel took the letters to Dr. Ved to seek his opinion. Dr. Ved thought that the disclosure of the letters might embarrass Nehru and create misunderstanding and hence took the letters and paid Dr. Esakiel Rs. 600.00 which the woman owed her. He later went to Delhi and handed over the letters to Nehru (and not to Mathai as stated in the book). Nehru gave him a copy of his book "Discovery of India" autographed by him which Dr. Ved still possesses as a souvenir.

One can only hope that Shradha Mata's book would throw more light on the whole episode and connect the missing link. However Mathai's version of the story cannot be dismissed as without foundation.

MATHAI ASSERTS

In an interview to a Calcutta weekly Mathai asserts: "Some people think I showed treachery as far as Nehru was concerned. I stand by what has been written in the preface.... I am not prepared to budge an inch from that, either in deference to female relatives or woman MPs who feel offended, or the so called scribes. I consider it absolutely fair."

Mathai refutes the criticism that he wrote the book for money. "I have lived very simply. Even now I have enough money to look after myself without this book. This money is what I had before I joined Panditji plus whatever accrual came, minus the expenditure."

He says that those who criticised the book seem to have done so only after seeing the pre-publication serialisation. They had not read the book. If they had read the book without the pre-publication serialisation, the opposition to the book would not have been there.

In a letter in the Illustrated Weekly of India in reply to Mr. Khushwant Singh's criticism in which he called Mathai a "namak haraml", Mathai said that the editorial was "couched in intemperate and vulgar language" and was full of untruths and insinuations. The editor strayed into dangerous ground by indulging in a dangerous game of guessing about people to whom references were made in the book and committed several mistakes in the process.

"About Nehru's sex life, I never opened my mouth while he was alive and for another thirteen years... Loyalty demanded my keeping the secret only until and well after his death. Then I let history take over," he said.

Mathai reiterated that Nehru never came down in his estimation even by a millimetre because of his fondness for women. It would have been unnatural if it were otherwise.

In a personal attack on Khushwant Singh, Mathai said: "as a journalist you took leave of reason a few years ago. You declared Indira as the "Indian of the Year 1975" and the little Sanjay as the "Indian of the Year 1976" and hailed him as the one hope for the future of the country. Please return to normal journalism for a change..."

Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit's daughter, Mrs. Nayantara Saghal, author and journalist, joined the fry in criticising Mathai's book. In her view Mathai betrayed a trust and the book is of bad taste. She refutes the chapters on her mother's extravagence in London and her sisters affair with Ferez Gandhi.

But Mathai says: "Nobody gave me anything in trust. I was never told that information about Nehru's sex life was a trust with me. I never take such trusts."

Hindi as common language

New Delhi, Mar. 10 (Samachar) The Prime Minister, Morarji Desai, said the mother tongue of the child should be the medium of education at all stages and efforts should be made to develop all the regional languages in the country.

He said the constitution had provided for Hindi to be the link language because it was understood by 60 to 70 per cent of the people in the country. No other Indian language was understood even by half of this percentage.

However, he was sure that promotion of Hindi would strengthen the other Indian languages as most of them had a common base in Sanskrit which was itself the richest language. In fact, it was English which would weaken the regional languages.

Mr. Desai was inaugurating the three day All India Indian Official Languages Conference under the auspices of the department of official languages in the union ministry of Home Affairs. Over 200 delegates from all over the country are attending the conference which would discuss, among other things, the use of Indian languages in official work and public services.

He was sure when the people from the South opted to learn Hindi, they should speak and write better Hindi than those in the North.

He reiterated that his governmetn was determined to develop all the Indian languages and not at the expense of the other.

The country would take pride in its nationhood only when its own language Hindi was adopted as common link language from one end to another.

Although the three language formula had been accepted by all the states, its implementatioin had been faulty in most cases, Mr. Desai said.

Urging the states to earnestly implement the three language formula, there should be no wranglings on the language issue which should be resolved keeping in mind the national interest.

No white baby for brown parents

The Ottawa Children's Aid Society, already the object of a provincial inquiry into an abused child's death, may now face a probe by the human rights commission.

A member of the provincial commission said Saturday he is "appalled" by the Ottawa Children's Aid Society's practice of discouraging East Indian couples' adoption of white children and will be discussing with his staff whether the commission should investigate the OCAS on grounds of racial discrimination.

However, OCAS executive director Joe Messner has defended its policy of adopting children out to parents of similar background, denying any racial discrimination is involved.

Dhansaheb Ubale attacked the adoption agency following claims by an East Indian couple they'd been told they could not adopt a white child when they approached the OCAS a year ago.

The couple, who did not wish to be identified, told The Journal "the first thing the social worker told us was it wasn't their policy to place a white child with brown parents.

"They said it was because the child wouldn't adjust well," said the woman. "But they said that, if we wanted, we could have an abnormal or retarded or a native Indian child, because they won't be adopted by anyone else."

The woman said she knows other East Indian couples who've been similarly discouraged from adopting white children, while black and brown children continue to be adopted by white parents.

The couple, in their early 30s and highly-educated, have been Canadian residents for 12 years.

Messner confirmed OCAS, like other children's aid societies, has discouraged East Indians from adopting white babies as part of its policy of placing babies with parents of similar backgrounds.

While white babies used to be placed with brown parents, numbers of adoption applicants have grown so much in recent years the agency can now place all white babies with white parents, he said. If brown babies are placed with white parents, it's because no suitable brown parents can be found, he added.

"If there were 20 white children available per applicant and we denied them a white child because they're East Indian, that would be discrimination," Messner argued. "But if the (complainant) perceives our policy as discrimination, that's incorrect."

However, Ubale charged in an interview that the policy raises "a moral issue" as to "whether the CAS has the right to discriminate on the basis of caste or creed."

The primary concern should be their ability to raise the child, he said.

Messner said the children's aid societies were "only complying with society's wishes. The community expects us to serve them and protect their linguistic and cultural rights."

Messner said until 10 years ago society objections were so strong the agency didn't pair children with parents of another faith, even though children were having to be raised in institutions as a result. He said the francophone community strongly objects when francophone children are adopted by angolphone parents.

[Ottawa Journal]

Ministries formed in states

New Delhi — The curtain was wrung on the high drama of Ministry-making in Maharashtra when Governor Sadiq Ali invited Vasantrao Patil, leader of the Congress Legislature Party to form a Government.

The invitation to Patil ended several days of suspense and conflicting claims by the Congress led front and the Janata Party over the numerical superiority of their supporters in the newly-elected legislative assembly.

The State Janata Party had pressed the Governor to call upon the leader of its legislative wing, Uttamrao Patil, to form a Ministry as that party as was the largest single party with 99 members in the 288-member Assembly. It had submitted a list of 145 legislators who it claimed would support a Janata ministry. The Congress and Congress(I) had in turn paraded before the Governor 149 legislators including independents and others. However, it was found that five legislators were common to the rival groups.

COALITIONS IN ASSAM, MEGHALAYA TOO

In Assam, the Janata Party with 53 members in a house of 126 is all set to form Government with the support of the Plain Tribals Council of Assam (four members) and five independents. The Party is also being supported in the House by 11 CPM members and four others, who will, however, not join the Ministry.

In Meghalaya a coalition Ministry of regional parties — the All Party Hill Leaders' Conference, the Hill State People's Democratic Party, the Public Demands Implementation Committee and the Jaintia National Union — is in the offing. The combined strength of these parties in the Asembly is 37 in a House of 60 members. The Congress with 20 members will be in the opposition.

STABILITY IN AP, KARNATAKA, ARUNACHAL

In Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka where the Congress(I) obtained a clear verdict, Congress (I) Chief Ministers Chenna Reddi and Devaraj Urs have already taken office. In the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh which also went to polls alongwith five States Feb. 25, the Janata Party has emerged with an absolute majority.

Footwear export

New Delhi, Mar. 13 (Samachar) Setting up of 100 units for manufacture of high-quality footwear with a total investment of Rs. 150 crores will enable India export at least 50 million pairs of footwear to the hitherto unapproachable markets in Western countries and earn Rs. 500 crores in foreign exchange a year. Besides, this investment would provide employment to one million people.

This was stated here by A. Hafeezur Rahman, chairman of the leather export promotion council.

Handicraftsmen felicitated

New Delhi, Mar. 8 (Samachar) The President N. Sanjiva Reddy, said that the traditional handicrafts of the country could serve as an effective instrument for generating employment in rural and semirural areas.

Distributing the national awards for 1978 to ten Master craftsmen from different parts of the country in recognition of their excellence in craftsmanship and invaluable contribution to Indian handicrafts at a function here Monday. The President said handicrafts, with its labour intensive character and its wide dispersal throughout the country, constitued an important economic activity.

Handicrafts possess a vast potential for generating employment opportunities and reducing unemployment and underemployment, especially for lakhs of people below the poverty line. He said the government was giving highest priority to the development of handicrafts along with other cottage and village industries. Each award carries Rs. 2,500 in cash, a Tamrapatra and an Angavastram. The awards instituted, by the All India Handicrafts Board are aimed at giving an incentive to the traditional craftsmen of the country and inspiring them towards greater zeal and artistic perfection.

Princes still richest

New Delhi - The former rulers of Princely States in India or their descendants are still the richest in India.

Among the top 20 rich persons on the basis of wealth tax assessments made up to the end of 1977, 13 are either former rulers or the inheritors or custodians of their immense private property. The House of Scindia, reckoned for income-tax purposes as a Hindu undivided family, came right on top with a gross wealth assessed in 1961-62, at Rs. 51.3 million. F.P. Gaekwad of Baroda, whose wealth was assessed five years later, came second with a total of Rs. 43.5 million and the Executor of the late Kamesh war Singh of Darbhanga (1961-62) with Rs. 4.02 crores.

From them on the gross wealth falls to below Rs. 30 million, with a solitary commoner, V.D. Chowghule, Goa business magnate, sandwiched between Mr. Madan Sinhji of Kutch and Rama Varma of Cochin.

Eleven persons were assessed for gross wealth ranging from over Rs. 10 million to Rs. 20 million, and among them all but four (including another - L.D. Chowgule) represent the former princely order, or trust formed for their families. Even in the lowest bracket - over Rs. 91 lakh and below Rs. 10 million - there was one prince nestling among three assesses, Jai Singh of Jaipur, Misri Lal Jain of Ranchi and Prithvi Raj of Jaipur.

If you're over 65, please send us your G.I.S. form.

Every year, you must re-apply for your Guaranteed Income Supplement, even if you are presently receiving it.

So if this applies to you, fill in the application you received in the mail. And return it in the addressed envelope as soon as possible.

We cannot continue to pay your Supplement after March 31st, 1978, unless you send us your form.

If you have any questions, call the Old Age Security office nearest you.

Health and Welfare Canada
Santé et Bien-être social Canada

Monique Bégin, Minister
Monique Bégin, Ministre

FILMS

RAJAN PARANJA KATHA

(Malayalam)

The minister of information ... broadcasting, LK Advani to ... last January in Madras tha... film has been passed by ... censor. The occasion was announcement of new 'g... lines' to the central board o... censors, in lieu of the norm... 18 years ago. By these lat... political film — if somebody ... to make one - would not ... muster with the censor. The ... under discussion has been ... ed by the "Rajan murder c... the most infamous episo... Kerala's emergency experi... "Rajan tells his story, is wh... tle means.

The film has been sho... between Madras, Bombay ... Delhi for the Censors' app... which is yet to come. As ma... be expected of a bureau... which the presnet regime ... common with its predeces... series of questions has ... raised and a number of su... ons made for cutting c... crucial portions. The di... producer, MK Maniswar... naturally hard put to answ... accept these.

Rajan Paranja Katha is ... with a serious purpose, a re... fictionalisation of the ... surrounding the murder in ... custody of Rajan, an engine... student of Calicut. Real situ... and actual locations are dep... like the college where he ... studying, the police station ... he was jailed, the t... chamber where he was do... death. The interviews with ... students and co-suffe... Chethamangalam Rajan, ... Sulochana, enhance the ... authenticity. Reality ... stranger than fiction.

Which is perhaps wh... censors are caught be... banning the film (as they ... have any time previously ... clearing it for public screen... was legitimately hoped for ... post- emergency flus... freedom.) The ministri... home, law and informatio... broadcasting have been un... decide one way or the ... during the past 6 months. ... of their quandary can be ha... the demands made by the ... board on the producer-dir...

Some of the cuts suggest... modify the visuals and di... to remove the connection w... Rajan murder case; dele... reference to the car pro... Sanjeevan, the central ch... who is patterned after ... Gandhi's second son; del... rape scene involving Vasa... Sanjeevan, the police c... with the latter, and the ... handling by the police of ... the worker and referen... Cahthamangalam Rajan to ... torture; delete the insert ... newspaper reports linki... then home minister, Karu... with the Rajan murder; ... delete the squence of Raja... tortured by the 'roller m... the zoom shots of Mrs. G... portrait and Sanjeevan's e... tion standing before it, ... all is lost.'

It is unnecessary to disc... official approach in any ... except to ask a cou... questions: How is it tha... Kursi Ka, with all its all... references, and made by ... politician, was passed ... censor? And what of th... scenes in Do Raha and in ... Malayalam film Itha H... (Upto this Point)? And fi... the spotlight is not to be ... brutal aspects of the em... excesses, what is the ... making a film on the Raja...

DA...
In Democrat...

FILMS

RAJAN PARANJA KATHA

(Malayalam)

The minister of information and broadcasting, LK Advani told us last January in Madras that this film has been passed by the censor. The occasion was the announcement of new 'guidelines' to the central board of film censors, in lieu of the norms set 18 years ago. By these latter, a political film — if somebody dares to make one - would not pass muster with the censor. The film under discussion has been inspired by the 'Rajan murder case', the most infamous episode of Kerala's emergency experience. 'Rajan tells his story, is what the title means.

The film has been shuttling between Madras, Bombay and Delhi for the Censors' approval which is yet to come. As may only be expected of a bureaucracy which the presnet regime has in common with its predecessor, a series of questions has been raised and a number of suggestions made for cutting certain crucial portions. The director-producer, MK Maniswamy is naturally hard put to answer or accept these.

Rajan Paranja Katha is a film with a serious purpose, a realistic fictionalisation of the facts surrounding the murder in police custody of Rajan, an engineering student of Calicut. Real situations and actual locations are depicted, like the college where he was studying, the police station where he was jailed, the torture chamber where he was done to death. The interviews with fellow students and co-sufferers, Chethamangalam Rajan and Sulochana, enhance the films' authenticity. Reality looks stranger than fiction.

Which is perhaps why the censors are caught between banning the film (as they would have any time previously) and clearing it for public screening (as was legitimately hoped for in the post-emergency flush of freedom). The ministries of home, law and information and broadcasting have been unable to decide one way or the other, during the past 6 months. An idea of their quandary can be had from the demands made by the censor board on the producer-director.

Some of the cuts suggested are: modify the visuals and dialogues to remove the connection with the Rajan murder case; delete the reference to the car project of Sanjeevan, the central character who is patterned after Mrs. Gandhi's second son; delete the rape scene involving Vasanti and Sanjeevan, the police collusion with the latter, and the mandhandling by the police of Pappu, the worker and references by Chethamangalam Rajan to police torture; delete the insert showing newspaper reports linking the then home minister, Karunakaran with the Rajan murder case; delete the sqeunce of Rajan being tortured by the 'roller method', the zoom shots of Mrs. Gandhi's portrait and Sanjeevan's exclamation standing before it, 'Mother, all is lost.'

It is unnecessary to discuss the official approach in any detail except to ask a couple of questions: How is it that Kissa Kursi Ka, with all its allegorical references, and made by a Janata politician, was passed by the censor? And what of the rape scenes in Do Rahe and in another Malayalam film Itha Ividevare (Upto this Point)? And finally, if the spotlight is not to be on the brutal aspects of the emergency excesses, what is the point in making a film on the Rajan story?

DARSHAK
in Democratic World

APNAPAN

Directed and produced by J. Om Prakash

Like many others, Om Prakash is a superstitious film maker. The titles of his films must begin with the letter "A". **Aan Ka Panchi, Aaye Din Bahar Ke, Aaye Milan Ke Bela, Aaya Sawan Jhoom Ke, Aap Ki Kasam, Aashiq Hoon Baharon Ka. Apnapan** is among the shorter titles he has used like **Aandhi** and **Aakraman.** The themes of his films are almost always marital conflict. Even in **Aakraman,** which was on the Indo-Pak conflict, it was so. **Aandhi,** directed by Gulzar, was more or less a biographical film on the former prime minister, with Suchitra Sen imitating her to the last detail, was yet about a marital mal-adjustment between a hotel keeper and his politician-wife. During the Emergency **Aandhi** came in for censoring and many sequences had to be changed - in order to stamp out any resemblance between the film character and the political personality.

In **Apnapan** Om Prakash has cast his net wider - family audiences. Its theme - conflict between the traditional self-sacrificing wife and the modern liberated woman - has some appeal for Indian women. The virtues of a selfless wife and the vices of a selfish one are both blown to exaggerated proportions: the tradition-bound bride vows not to have children of her own so as to preserve her affection for her the step-son, the modern wife cares little for her husband, seeks divorce on the slightest excuse, and declares her hatred for the children. The film then proceeds to make the comment: Mothers never disown their children.

The message is put across forcefully in the second half, the first half is a chance meeting between the divorced man and the office girl who reads James Hadley Chase, romances with him in parks and valleys, marries him and adopts his son as her own. The script has many indigestibles: e.g. the husband drawing Rs. 700 a month drives his own 8-cylinder car, lives in a posh flat in Bombay with two servants, wears laundry-fresh suits and educates his son in Kashmir.

The slipshod ephemeralities of the plot are ignored to emphasise the duties and obligations of the Indian bride in loud tones. Long lectures on frailties and loyalties of women are intended to sway emotion. These put-on scenes help make the boxoffice jingle with coins.

That the censor has turned liberal is more than evident in **Apnapan.** There are kisses, clandestine or clear, with the smooching sound in the track. Jumping Jack Jeetendra is as wooden as a marionette. Sulakshana Pundit is as flabby as any Indian middle-aged mother. Reena Roy succeeds to an extent in conveying the heartaches of the modern wife who loses her son to another woman. Sanjeev Kumar lights up his acting with a warm human glow in the role of a confirmed middle-aged bachelor, well-versed in the psychology of married life. After a long, long time Iftekhar plays the husband to a young bride. And Aruna Irani gets away with many risque lines.

J. Om Prakash's films have as a rule appealing music. There is so much **parayapan** in Laxmi Pray-elal's musical score that hardly any song is memorable. Even the oft-repeated **Aadmi Musafir Hai** is a parody of an old tune. However, the young girl who gesticulates and sings in the bus does so with gay abandon.

Darshak.

United Church on racism

The light seems to be slowly dawning that racism, long thought to be a problem of the United States, Southern Africa and a few other unenlightened areas of the world, has raised its vicious and evell head in Canada. We suspect that it has always existed here if the treatment of Canadian Indians and Inuit is any example, but the fact that our immigration policies and the treatment of non-whites in our big cities is becoming cause for concern has brought it out in the open.

Racism is indefensible yet almost universal. It is based simply on the belief that one race, color or creed is superior to any other. It is bigotry plain and simple. It is also illegal, although the law in this country is too often not enforced.

There is a theory being expressed with frightening frequency that the victims of racism deserve it. After all this antiquated mode of thinking says, these people came here from another country because they thought Canada was a better place than the one which they were leaving. Therefore, these bigots assert, they must be prepared to accept with grace all the insults, abuse and downright discrimination that is tossed at them because that is the way others "had to make it" in Canada.

The non-white, the immigrant, the minority should be humble and preferably stupid and should show their gratitude for being allowed into this nation of freedom and equality by accepting racism.

There is a cure for racism but it requires stern measures on the part of our politicians, police, churches, schools and all other institutions of society who must declare uncompromisingly that racism is unacceptable, illegal and will be dealt with severely.

Politicians and police must enact and enforce rigidly the strongest laws possible in a democratic society against these such disgusting practices. They must begin by rooting it out in their own arenas.

But the molders of opinion, the consciences of society have an even deeper responsibility because racism is not something people are born with. One rarely sees it among children. Racism is an acquired attitude, acquired from parents, teachers and acquaintances.

The churches and schools must make quite clear that, in the eyes of God and of society, all men and women are created of equal worth and have the right to equal treatment. Anything less is an attitude of mind and emotion that is totally wrong.

(The United Church of Canada)

Poll results from states

New Delhi, Mar. 8 (Samachar) Saturday's assembly poll has ended in a stalemate in Meghalaya and Maharashtra with no party emerging with a clear majority.

With returns to come from only 13 of the sixty assembly constituencies in Meghalaya, the party leading the field — congress had obtained only 15 seats. The All Party Hill Leaders' conference, the regional party in Meghalaya was a close second with 13. Independents got eight seats and other parties 11.

With two seats still to be filled in the 288-member Maharashtra Assembly, the Janata Party was ahead of the others with a tally of 98 seats, followed by the Congress with 69, the Congress (I) with 62, the Peasants and Workers Party with 13 and the CPI(M) with nine.

The President of the Maharashtra Unit of the Congress (I), N.K. Tirpade, told Samachar that his party had a strength of 68 as six of its candidates in Vidarbha had won the elections as independent. They had not been allotted the party symbol, hand, because of the late receipt of the authorisations by the poll authorities.

The trend in Assam is also towards a stalemate. With returns yet to be received from 56 of the 126 constituencies, the Janata Party had captured 28, followed by the Congress with 15, the Congress (I) with seven, the CPI with five and the CPI(M) with four. Other parties took three seats and independents eight.

The People's party of Arunachal Pradesh made its debut, winning the lone seat. The Janata party had already won two seats without contest and the lone result declared Monday went in favour of an independent.

Counting was in progress in five other constituencies in Arunachal Pradesh and the results are expected to be declared by Tuesday evneing. In Andhra Pradesh, where the Congress (I) has been returned to power, all but one of the 294 seats in the assembly have been filled. The Janata Party has emerged as the main opposition in the state. The party position is Congress (I) 175, Janata Party 60, Congress 30, CPI (M) eight, CPI five and Independents 15.

Sydney meeting hails India's initiative

By George Mathew

New Delhi: The Prime Minister, Morarji Desai, who returned here after attending the conference of Commonwealth heads of government from Asia and the Pacific, was satisfied that the conference had served its purpose.

It appeared that the bomb blast near the Hilton hotel where he stayed in Sydney did not upset Mr. Desai. Asked whether he thought of banning the Anand Marg which was reported to be responsible for the bomb explosion, he said he was yet to give thought to it.

In a statement in the Lok Sabha, Mr. Desai said that the conference was a "worthwhile innovation." From India's point of view it served "an important purpose in bringing together the leaders of the Commonwealth countries in the Asian and Pacific region." It was both regional and functional.

Mr. Desai praised the initiative taken by the Australian Prime Minister in calling the meeting and complimented him for the hospitality.

The regular and informal discussions covered a great number of topics and the joint communique issued at the end of the conference "is consistent with our basic views and aspirations."

The main emphasis was on international economic issues, the danger of protectionism and the need for freer trade, commodities and the common fund, measures to promote industrial developments, debt burdens, plans and projects for regional economic and functional cooperation on energy, human resources, food production and rural development, curbing drug trafficking and special problems of small island states. Issues like terrorism, disarmament, the Indian ocean, Southern Africa and West Asia also figured in the discussions.

The Prime Minister assured the other leaders that India would be happy to share whatever knowledge and experience it had gathered in the difficult process of economic diversification and development. "It was gratifying to note the esteem with which India is regarded by the countries in the region and the possibilities for strengthening our cooperation with them in many fields," he added.

India had agreed to host the next regional meeting in Delhi in 1980.

Addressing Janata Parliamentary Party workers Mr. Desai said that India was in the process of establishing "very cordial relations" with all its neighbours. "Relations with all our neighbouring countries have improved and very good climate has been created for collaboration in the economic, cultural and other fields with them," he told the M.Ps.

AT THE U.N.

Mr. Desai would address the special U.N. disarmament session in May. He claimed that India's views regarding disarmament were being increasingly appreciated. There was international acceptance of India's arguments in not signing the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, he added.

The Prime Minister said that India would welcome international cooperation in technology in specific projects and on mutually beneficial terms.

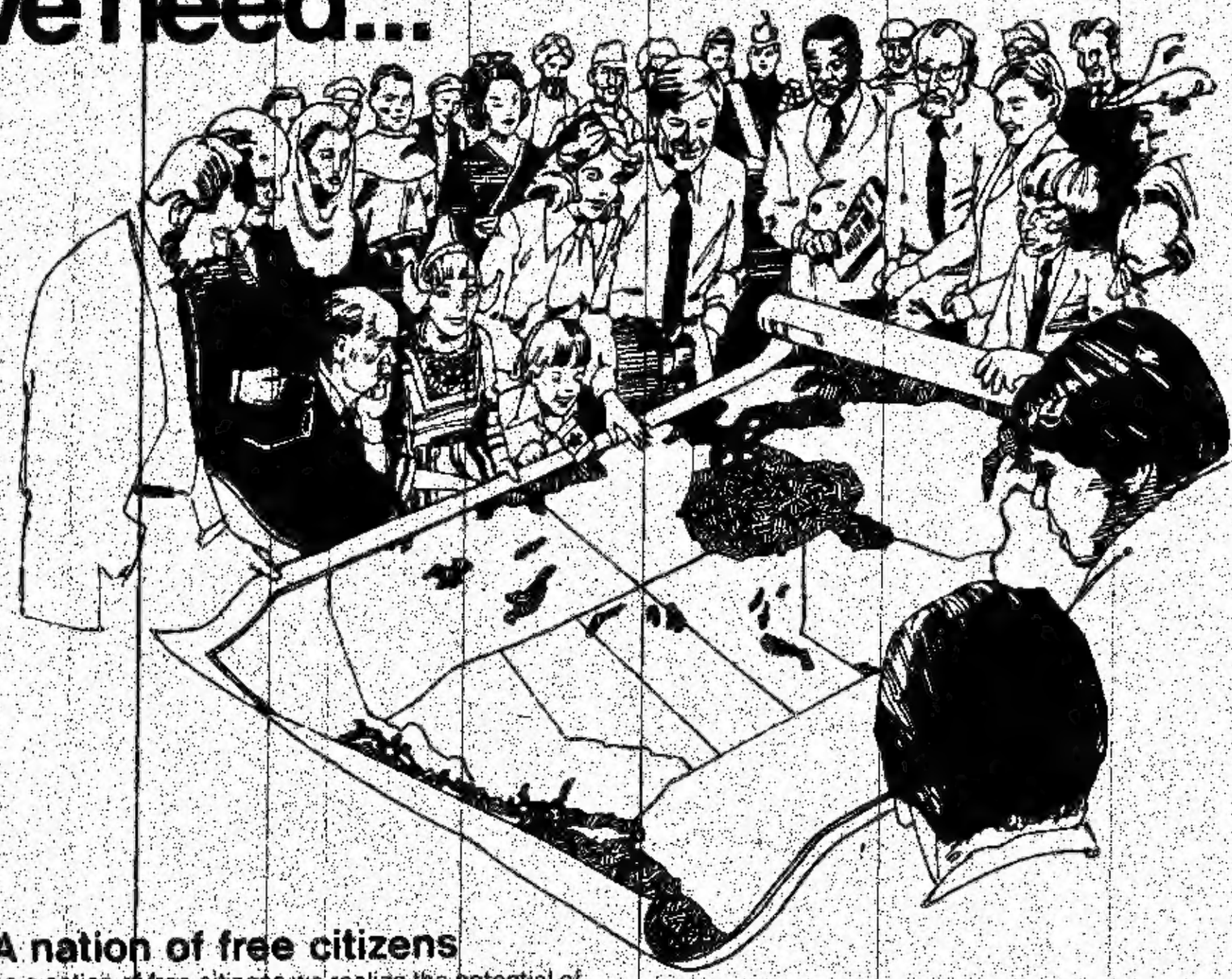
M.P. vs.Cafik

Ottawa... Gus Mitges, Progressive Conservative Spokesman for Multiculteralism, questioned recent statements made by the Minister of Multiculturalism.

When Mr. Cafik spoke last month to the Canadian Association for Curriculum Studies in Saskatoon, he stated that "Multicultural education should be seen as requiring a multi-disciplinary approach. This approach should recognize and include such topics as diversity, human rights, social justice and equal opportunity."

"I would be the first to agree on the necessity and importance of bringing about such goals," Dr. Mitges said. "However, having heard similar speculative remarks from former Ministers responsible for Multiculturalism, I don't doubt that the present Minister has also embarked on making rhetorical statements and comments. Unfortunately for the many different ethno-cultural communities in Canada, all we have heard is talk with no substance to it."

To maintain a unified Canada, we need...



A nation of free citizens

As a nation of free citizens we realize the potential of each individual to aspire and to achieve. As one of the cornerstones of our great nation, freedom is an ideal that implies that each and every Canadian has an equal opportunity in this land of ours.

We must also have respect for one another and therefore recognize the right of individuals to retain and preserve their own values, traditions and identities.

A democratic nation

We as Canadians enjoy the privilege of living in a democracy. A situation that is denied many people the world over who are less fortunate than we are. We believe that democracy is another of the pillars of this great nation. But democracy means more than just a form of government. It carries with it considerable rights and obligations. The right for instance, of citizens to be informed, to elect the government of their choice and determine the laws under which they live. The government in turn is committed to understand the needs and aspirations of everyone. This understanding is essential in a country such as ours . . . a great democracy.

A bilingual nation

Ours is a bilingual country operating under the umbrella of our two official languages, English and French. This simply means that all citizens have the right to deal with government in the language of their choice, and, inherent in this policy is the freedom of choice of Canadians to function in either official language.

A multicultural nation

The fact that people of different cultural backgrounds are able to live harmoniously in an integrated society is one of the elements that has contributed to the tremendous growth and vitality of this nation. The government recognizes and enhances this through its policy of Multiculturalism. This policy ensures that Canadians are free to maintain their values and heritage, and to put to good use their talents and skills to the benefit of themselves, their community and their country. Indeed Multiculturalism is one of the pillars of nation-building, providing each and everyone of us with the opportunity to fulfill ourselves and to contribute to the growth and vitality of Canada.

...and a little understanding

Multiculturalism

unity through understanding

Honourable Norman Cafik
Minister of State,
Multiculturalism

L'honorable Norman Cafik
Ministre d'Etat
Multiculturalisme

Poets

By Jaya Subramaniam

Dr. Harsh Dahejia of "Jhank Fame had arranged an enjoy evening of all creative art poets and dramatists on Satu 11th March at the Citizen Fo auditorium at 8:30 p.m. This a very pleasant occasion for t who had original work to disp The little room was taste decorated and Mrs. Dahejia ught it an Indian touch by ligh a votive lamp traditional to I

The programme was divided two parts with a coffee brea between. The first half was g to poets - people who had random thoughts into rhym Some were sad, some stru pleasant note and certainly them were thought provoki The audience could not be that such people like Ha himself, Professor Subraman and Mr. Varma of the Indian Commission, write poetry hobby. Professor Subramani poems were in Sanskrit an sung them himself and expla that they were meant for dramas. Mr. Gill's poems

Law productiv high

New Delhi — The erstw Congress government of Indira Gandhi made a tota 37,237 laws during 1971 to which works out to an averag 12.25 laws per day.

Making this sensational di sure before the Shah Commis Saturday, February 25, Lekhi, Counsel for the U Government disclosed that Constitution had been amen 19 times, 96 ordinances had promulgated, 26,515 rules, or and notifications framed and statutes passed during period. Thirty regulations and Presidential Acts had also issued, he added.

Lekhi came up with th figures when, in the couse o arguments on the appointme Varadachaty as Chairman o State Bank of India Mr. Ju Shah told him that an amend to the State Bank of India Ac given the Government the o to terminate the services o bank's chairman.

ESCAP conference

New Delhi, Mar. 14 (Sama A proposal for convenin conference of trade mini from countries in Asia and P in New Delhi in August this to consider a blue print expansion of intra-regional will come up for approval a thirtyfourth session of the Economic and Social Commi for the region.

The proposal to prepare print for such cooperation endorsed by the commission last session and India had o to host facilities for the c ence. The blue print will co package of components whic lead to expansion of regional trade when implem cumulatively.

A high level Indian dele led by the Minister for Com and civil Supplies, Mohan is leaving here Sunday f session at Bangkok. The d tion will include the Com Secretary R.D. Thapar and officials of the ministri external affairs, fin commerce and planning.

Praise for agricultur

Nobel laureate Dr. Norm Borlaug, a renowned breeder, has complimente Indian agricultural scientis farmers for bringing ab "tremendous improvemen food production.

Poets get together

By Jaya Subramaniam

Dr. Harsh Dabhila of "Jhankar" Fame had arranged an enjoyable evening of all creative artists, poets and dramatists on Saturday 11th March at the Chilean Forum auditorium at 8:30 p.m. This was a very pleasant occasion for those who had original work to display. The little room was tastefully decorated and Mrs. Dabholia brought it an Indian touch by lighting a votive lamp traditional to India.

The programme was divided into two parts with a coffee break in between. The first half was given to poets - people who had put random thoughts into rhymes. Some were sad, some struck a pleasant note and certainly all of them were thought provoking. The audience could not believe that such people like Harsha himself, Professor Subramaniam, and Mr. Varma of the Indian High Commission, write poetry for a hobby. Professor Subramaniam's poems were in Sanskrit and he sung them himself and explained that they were meant for dance dramas. Mr. Gil's poems were on all kinds of topics and young Nirmala B. Singh also read some of her poems. H.E.M. Ahmed High Commissioner of India in Canada was the chief guest and was more than pleased to be there that evening.

After coffee the stage was set for the "HUM of Canada" a group of musicians who produced an orchestra to accompany light music. There was not much original work that went into it but a lot of new touches were given to some popular Hindi Movie Songs. The orchestra was very pleasant to hear and Mrs. Vij's songs were melodious. Other participants were Messers. Sheik Nisar, Chadha, Ravi Narula, Samuel and Shams. One could see great success in store for this group.

Carol Henderson was playing the role of M.C.

Campagnolo regrets racism

Brandon, Manitoba — Iona Cmapagnolo, federal minister of state for amateur sport and fitness, says the latest victims of Canada's continued streak of racism are Indians and Pakistanis.

"We've had discrimination in this country for long," she said in an interview with M. Haroon Siddiqui, managing editor of The Brandon Sun. "First it was the Chinese, then Italians, then Japanese, and now it is the Pakistanis and Indians.

"We get racist hatred against immigrants on the hot-line radio programs. And you know what happens? After 10 minutes of racist comments on the air, the host of the program says, 'No, you can't say those things on the air waves.' This is done after they've poured their bile out for 10 minutes.

"We, as a society have to fight that."

Mrs. Campagnolo, nee Iona Hardy, married an Italian immigrant in British Columbia, and says she has seen discrimination at first hand. As a child of 10, she saw her Japanese friends hauled off from Galiano Island, B.C. to internment camps in the interior of B.C after Pearl Harbor.

Mrs. Campagnolo said, however, that "by and large, we Canadians have learned to get along with each other. If we were a vindictive people, we would have split long ago."

She said Canada, with 56 cultures and ethnic minorities, has a chance to show the world what a multicultural society can be like.

Sharma top weight lifter

Milford Station, N.S. — Vijay Sharma of host Hants East High School, lifting in the 52 kilogram class, captured top honors in the Nova Scotia Weightlifting Association under 20 championships held here.

Sharma's two-lift total of 150 kg. capturing tourney honors, was also a Nova Scotia teenage and senior record.

Robert MacDonald of Antigonish, liting in the 100 kg. weight class, set three Nova Scotia teenage records with an 82.5 kg. snatch, 97.5 kg. jerk and 177.5 kg. total.

Law productivity high

New Delhi — The erstwhile Congress government of Mrs. Indira Gandhi made a total of 37,237 laws during 1971 to 76 which works out to an average of 12.25 laws per day.

Making this sensational disclosure before the Shah Commission Saturday, February 25, P.N. Lekhi, Counsel for the Union Government disclosed that the Constitution had been amended 19 times, 96 ordinances had been promulgated, 26,515 rules, orders and notifications framed and 463 statutes passed during that period. Thirty regulations and 116 Presidential Acts had also been issued, he added.

Lekhi came up with these figures when, in the couse of his arguments on the appointment of Varadachary as Chairman of the State Bank of India Mr. Justice Shah told him that an amendment to the State Bank of India Act had given the Government the option to terminate the services of the bank's chairman.

ESCAP conference

New Delhi, Mar. 14 (Samachar) A proposal for convening a conference of trade ministers from countries in Asia and Pacific in New Delhi in August this year to consider a blue print for expansion of intra-regional trade will come up for approval at the thirty-fourth session of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for the region.

The proposal to prepare a blue print for such cooperation was endorsed by the commission at its last session and India had offered to host facilities for the conference. The blue print will cover a package of components which will lead to expansion of intra-regional trade when implemented cumulatively.

A high level Indian delegation led by the Minister for Commerce and civil Supplies, Mohan Dharia is leaving here Sunday for the session at Bangkok. The delegation will include the Commerce Secretary R.D. Thapar and senior officials of the ministries of external affairs, finance, commerce and planning.

Praise for agriculturists

Nobel laureate Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, a renowned wheat breeder, has complimented the Indian agricultural scientists and farmers for bringing about a "tremendous improvement" in food production.

Be honest with Unemployment Insurance.

Unemployment Insurance helps people who want to work while they're between jobs. It's a good program for Canada and for you. Let's do our best to make sure it stays that way.

All you have to do is to be honest with us.

Let's put it simply.

The Unemployment Insurance program must not be abused if it is to continue to work well for those who need it. Those who abuse the program only hurt themselves in the end.

Remember, when you cheat on Unemployment Insurance, you're breaking the law. And 85% of the people we charge with breaking the law are convicted.

We try to be fair with you.

Our job at Unemployment Insurance is to pay you all the money you're entitled to. As quickly, courteously and fairly as possible.

But the people who get Unemployment Insurance benefits have to be fair and honest with us too. So be sure to tell us if you work while you're getting Unemployment Insurance cheques.

And whatever you do, don't claim money that doesn't belong to you.

The Unemployment Insurance Commission and the Department of Manpower and Immigration have become the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission. For a time, you'll still see our local offices identified as Unemployment Insurance offices or Canada Manpower Centres. When they're together in one location, they'll be called Canada Employment Centres.

Canada's Unemployment Insurance Program

Working with people who want to work.

Employment and Immigration Canada — Bud Cullen, Minister

Emploi et Immigration Canada — Bud Cullen, Ministre

By Pranati Sengupta

When you entertain, you can offer your guests dishes that you simply wouldn't have the time to prepare from scratch - without spending half the evening in the kitchen. But it is easy and simple with frozen foods. Try these recipes to start with, then let your imagination go to work with all kinds of frozen vegetables.

SPINACH KOFTA CURRY

2 (10 oz. each) frozen chopped spinach, thawed
1 tsp. salt
½ tsp. chili powder
3 tbsp. besan (chick-pea flour) or 1 large egg
½ tsp. garam masala
Make channa from 3 cups whole milk (reserve liquid for the gravy)
1/8 tsp. salt
Pinch of sugar
2 tbsp. chopped walnut or almond
4 tbsp. minced onion
1 tbsp. minced ginger
3 medium cloves of garlic, minced
¼ tsp. turmeric
1 tsp. coriander powder
1½ tsp. cumin powder
2 tbsp oil and 4 tbsp ghee
A pinch of cumin seeds, 1 bay leaf
1 large tomato finely chopped
½ tsp. garam masala
½ tsp. chili
3 to 4 tbsp. sliced almond

Squeeze spinach with hands to remove as much liquid as possible. Add to it the salt, chili, besan or egg and garam masala and blend just until combined. Make 24 balls out of the spinch mixture. Knead channa (panir) adding salt and sugar. Mix in nuts. Make 24 balls about the size of a small grape. Take one spinich ball and make a hollow in the centre and fill it with a channa ball, cover it completely with the spinich. Make the rest in the same way.

Heat the pan add oil and ghee. Fry slice almond just for a second (do not let it brown), remove from oil. Next fry koftas few at a time over med. heat until lightly brown & crisp. Remove and set aside. In the same oil add cumin seeds and bay leaf and then onion and garlic. Stir for 1 minute then add ginger, turmeric, cumin, coriander and fry until the mixture is little brown, adding a little water (about 1 tbsp.) from time to time. Add tomato, chili, and salt. Add reserved channa liquid (whey). Bring to a boil and then gently cook about 15 minutes. Now add the koftas and simmer, uncovered, for another 15 minutes or until the gravy is thick (do not boil, kofta may break). Sprinkle garam masala and almond and simmer another 2 minutes. Serve with boiled rice or Indian bread.

PALAK PANIR

2 quarts whole milk (prepare channa and strain it through a cheese cloth and put it under a weight. It would become flat, chill in the refrigerator)
2 pkg. frozen chopped spinich (10 oz. each), thawed
1 large onion, minced
1½ tbsp. minced ginger
¼ cup ghee
A pinch of cumin seeds, 1 bay leaf
4 crushed cardamom seeds
¼ tsp. turmeric
2 tsp. cumin powder
¼ tsp. chili
1 tbsp. tomato paste
1 cup water
Pinch of sugar and little salt
½ tsp. garam masala

Cut the channa (panir) into cubes. Heat the ghee and first fry the channa cubes until light golden. Remove and keep them aside. In the same ghee add seeds, bay leaf, cardamom and onion and fry gently for about 1 to 2 minutes. Add rest of the spices and tomato paste & fry another few seconds. Now add drained spinich & salt to 1 minute. Add water, salt and sugar; and let it cook gently for 10 to 12 minutes. Add channa cubes and let it simmer for another 10 minutes (uncovered), or until the gravy is thick. Sprinkle garam masala and stir lightly. Serve with pullao or Indian bread.

Finance Minister on budget

New Delhi, Mar 10 (Samachar): Finance Minster, H.M. Patel said his budget represents a "Confident start" for the launching of the sixth Five Year Plan.

In an interview over television, Mr. Patel said the new policy on gold sales, the decision to remove octroi and reduction of interest rates and other steps were calculated to stimulate the economy.

Referring to the massive resource mobilisation effort, Mr. Patel said he has tried his best to soften the impact on weaker sections of society and on the small scale sector.

For the first time the plan outlay for the states and the union territories was larger than of the centre. This, he said, indicated the Janata Government's determination to decentralise planning and shift the focus to the rural areas.

The greatest democracy in the world

by Dr. A.M. Mathai

[Dr. A.M. Mathai is professor of Mathematics at McGill University]

Continued from March 2, 1978 issue.....

I was talking to some university administrators. They said that it was not possible to take any action against such things. Under the present government, if any action is taken he will be in trouble. If anyone talks about cleanliness and discipline he will be branded as antidemocratic and a supporter of emergency which is like being branded as antisemetic in the west. The principals I talked to doubt very much that there will be any examinations this year. The professors I talked to will be going to the examination halls for supervision just for the money but they will not take any action against copying or any type of malpractice. They are mortally afraid and they believe that even if they take any action at least someone in the [redacted] won't stand by them and they will be in trouble.

Some are put out through the press and others seem to be spread by paid agents. It is interesting to notice that whatever happens anywhere in India immediately there is a story at the local teashops saying that Mrs. Gandhi is responsible. Even if there is a collision of a truck and a car at the local corner the story will be that Mrs. Gandhi or her supporters have a hand in it. The nature and magnitude of the rumours indicate that it is spread by organized groups. During the past eight month period so many weeklies, monthlies and newspapers have appeared all over India - all almost exclusively devoted to anti Mrs. Gandhi propaganda. I don't think that there is any person in the world, living or ever lived, who is subjected to character assassination by a business, ruling government and all sorts of unsocial elements, more than Mrs. Gandhi in India. I should also mention that there is none in the world who is as courageous as Mrs. Gandhi who stands up and fights back. This is something remarkable in a person. This is the sign of a real leader and whatever be the faults of such a person they should be forgiven.

There is nothing in the revelations of the various commissions so far which suggest that anything, other than what is being done by governments all over the world, has taken place during emergency. Charges laid so far are trivial things such as excess use of government vehicles, giving orders over the phone, etc., etc. Through all the commissions an atmosphere is created by which everyone is trying to find a place in the Indian history by searching for a charge against Mrs. Gandhi which can be substantiated and by which she can be prevented to re-enter politics. The press puts out stories with a vengeance. Extreme form of hatred can be seen through the reports by the various reporters. Also organized gangs are being used to prevent her from addressing public meetings. Recently a man was aprehended while pointing a loaded pistol at her during a public meeting. The "responsible" minister had already judged it as a stunt by Mrs. Gandhi even before the case was investigated.

In the shops the prices of essential items not only increased but some prices are tenfold. Things like onions, chillies, corriandoe and other items are not often available in Kerala countryside. The prices go up every day. Food adulteration is back again. During the emergency days I noticed that the people were gaining some confidence in locally packed or canned goods. Now they are back to nescafe instead of locally packed ground coffee and milk powder instead of the "fresh milk" from the local milk supplier.

NEWS

The most interesting aspects of it all is that the news media has taken an attitude that it does not matter whatever is happening around as long as Mrs. Gandhi is prevented from coming back. In every newspaper from north to south at least one page is devoted every day to anti Mrs. Gandhi propaganda. During my six weeks of stay I could not find a single day where there was at least something nasty written about Mrs. Gandhi. As in the pre-emergency days Indian Express chain is leading in one-sided reporting and lead articles and character assassinations. If you are a visitor to India you will loose track of the reports from various commissions of inquiry. The various commissions seem to be competing with each other in bringing out stories. The headlines in the newspapers are really something! One headline in Indian Express goes like this. "Lies, Lies, Lies". They are supposedly making an unbiased report about Mrs. Gandhi's appearance before the commission inquiring about emergency excesses. This is the most popular commission known as the Shah Commission. In a nutshell it is a mockery of all process of justice. All types of people are lined up to make all types of stories. If the stories are not spicy enough the commission will ask more questions to bring out something for making some headline for the day. These story tellers are not allowed to be cross-examined to bring out the truth. Then these are reported by the news media in whatever manner they want to portray them. The news media already gave guilty verdict long ago and it is being repeated every day to prepare the general public.

The only aim of all these commissions seem to be to prevent Mrs. Gandhi's return whatever be the means employed. The tactic seem to be to put out all types of stories in such a volume that it will be physically impossible for anyone to deny all these even after spending 24 hours every day simply denying them.

During the pre-emergency days I had seen the rumour mills in operation. The same mills are working full time and all types of spicy stories are there all over. The degeneration of Indian mentality has reached to the level that the thirst for scandalous rumours seem to be insatiable. The stories cross all levels of moral, religious, philosophical or spiritual barriers in a country where people boast so much about morals and religions

THERAPY

The present government's record of service can be measured by the lawlessness in the country and by the number of strikes and hartals during the past several months. The government seem to be giving topmost priority to prohibition and ucine therapy. Now the health minister seem to be going around propagating urine therapy. During the short span, the present government seem to have surpassed the previous government in all the crimes the previous government was accused of - appointing judges superceding seniority, disappearance of crores of rupees from the food corporation of India, awarding contracts to foreign firms involving millions of dollars without guarantees and disregarding other low bids with guarantees, etc. But the only difference is that the organized press closes their eyes on these events.

MRS. GANDHI AS LEADER

Recently one reporter asked the prime minister about his son accompanying him all over the places. His reply has been that if his son does not look after him who else will look after him. Why not the same logic in the case of Mrs. Gandhi and her son? To this writer's mind it is a great injustice being done to her who has served the nation sincerely and to the best of her ability. The present activities of the administration and the press simply indicate degeneration of the national thinking. One section of the press is concentrating its attack on Nehru and the Nehru family, another section concentrating on Gandhi, the father of the nation, and portraying Gandhi's assassins as heroes and all the sections attacking the previous prime minister in whose time at least India gained some self-respect, made some foreign exchange reserve, repaid some of the debts, changed the status of the nation from a beggar to self-respecting power, won a war which would have been disastrous if the leader of the nation had no backbones to stand up to the threat. Maturity and decency of the nation is seen in forgiving such a leader even if such a leader had some faults. All the faults are to be weighed against the gains at the economic front, in self-respect, in the happiness of the silent majority of the general public, in the area of progress in industrial production and discipline, etc. Instead, what type of national character is shown by the organized character assassination of such an individual along with the attacks on all other leaders such as Nehru and Gandhi? Each of these leaders acted selflessly thinking that he or she was doing the best for the country. If the present state of affairs in India is not the degeneration and decaying national character what else is it?

BEGGAR

In this writer's opinion the present government will put India back to the status of a beggar in international scene. There is no one who is capable of really leading the nation. The present state of affairs in India is an eyewitness. No honesty or fairness is seen in the press reports. Newspapers seem to be a sheer wastage of the precious newsprint. The present leaders seem to have no faith in Indian manufactured items. They are already putting priority on foreign manufactured items. According to one report already some watches are imported, ships and planes are going to be bought from outside at the risk of destroying the Indian enterprises.

(To be continued).....

NEW VEGETARIAN
RESTAURANT in Ottawa
THE MANGO TREE
Open daily until 10 p.m. 238-8452
169 Nicholas Street
[Corner of Laurier]

Gold s

New Delhi, Mar. 10 (San
The Government will an
before the end of this mo
scheme for entering the m
sell stocks of gold in the
of the Mint and the
Bank, the Finance Secreta
Fernanders said.

He said the monetary go
by RBI would not be touch
Government could not
the stocks of disposable
held outside the reserv
"We have reasonably a
stocks to be able to achi
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added.

(The Finance Minister
Patel, had said in his
speech Tuesday that the
intended to check gold sm
and to utilise a part of
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actions).

Asked whether the gov
would sell gold at inter
prices, Mr. Fernandes
committee would be set
to examine the mechan
operational details of the
The actual sale operation
be conducted by RBI. The
ttee will consist of the
secretary, the secretary
departemnt of economic
deputy governor of R
chairman of the central
excise and customs and
control administrator.
announce the scheme in
near future," he said.

Award fo

New Delhi — The Gov
has decided to give an a
Rs 10,000 (about US $1
anyone who discovers a
pathic medicine which
used safely and effecti
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The claim for this awar
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Tax exempti

New Delhi — The Go
of India has announced th
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exempt political parti
income tax, provided th
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The exemption would

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New Delhi — The
wonders is not over. Indi
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The cost of one ton o
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New Delhi, Mar. 10 (
India will buy from B
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New Delhi, Mar. 13 (
India's participation in
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v. Dr. A.M. Mathai

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RS. GANDHI AS LEADER

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sections attacking the prev-
s prime minister in whose time
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such an individual along with
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national character what else is

GGAR

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(To be continued).....

ARIAN
ANT in Ottawa
E 169 Nicholas Street
52 (Corner of Laurier)

Gold sale coming

New Delhi, Mar. 10 (Samachar) The Government will announce before the end of this month its scheme for entering the market to sell stocks of gold in the custody of the Mint and the Reserve Bank, the Finance Secretary, P.J. Fernanders said.

He said the monetary gold held by RBI would not be touched. The Government could not disclose the stocks of disposable gold it held outside the reserves but, "We have reasonably adequate stocks to be able to achieve the purposes we have in mind," he added.

The Finance Minister, H.M. Patel, had said in his budget speech Tuesday that the sale was intended to check gold smuggling and to utilise a part of accumulated gold to reduce the expansionary effect of budgetary transactions).

Asked whether the government would sell gold at international prices, Mr. Fernandes said a committee would be set up soon to examine the mechanics and operational details of the scheme. The actual sale operations would be conducted by RBI. The committee will consist of the finance secretary, the secretary in the departemnt of economic affairs, a deputy governor of RBI, the chairman of the central board of excise and customs and the gold control administrator. "We will announce the scheme in the very near future," he said.

Asked whether the government would import gold for sale, Mr. Fernandes said direct importation of gold had been linked with the scheme for the export of gold jewellery. "We are keeping our options open. The technique and strategy of the gold sale operations would be looked into by the committee."

Mr. Fernandes said India did not have to get any clearance from the International Monetary Fund for the sale of gold. This gold had accumulated over the last thirty years by way of confiscation or output from the Bharat Gold and Hutti Mines, or gold received but not returnable under the gold bond scheme.

He also made it clear that the gold control act remained intact and none of its provisions was being diluted. The act laid down the limit for persons holding primary gold beyond which they would have to make declarations and also provided for licensing of dealers.

Asked whether the large difference between domestic and international prices did not lead to temptation, and whether the government would sell gold at near international prices, the official said, "We will watch the situation as we go along." Anyone attempting to sell gold which did not have government marking would be committing an offence, he said.

Award for Homoeopathic drug

New Delhi — The Government has decided to give an award of Rs 10,000 (about US $1100) to anyone who discovers a homoeopathic medicine which can be used safely and effectively for birth control.

The claim for this award will be admitted only after the anti-fertility effect of the drug is proved beyond doubt by laboratory tests and clinical trials.

An expert committee under the Central Council for Research in Indian Meidcine and Homoeopathy will finally examine the results of tests and make recommendations to the Government for sanctioning the award.

Tax exemption for political parties

New Delhi — The Government of India has announced that it will shortly sponsor legislation to exempt political parties from income tax, provided the parties maintain proper books of account and get their annual accounts audited by a chartered accountant or other qualified accountant.

The exemption would be given only to recognized political parties registered with the Election Commission of India.

The exemption would be in respect of income derived by the parties from their investments in movable and immovable property and income by way of donations from non-members. Subscriptions from members are not liable to tax.

Indian grass goes to the gulf

New Delhi, — The age of wonders is not over. India has just exported one ton of turf grass to Dubai, to help a rich Sheikh sow his lawn.

The cost of one ton of grass is Rs. 1500, but the Sheikh has paid airfreight charges around Rs. 17,000. A bigger order is on the cards.

The Sheikh insisted that he must have the "Calcutta turf grass". He has also imported two expert Malis (Gardeners). They have gone to Dubai to lay his lawn.

Some time back, Saudi Arabia faced acute shortage of water. It had shown interest in importing water from India. Discussions are still in progress.

Bangladesh newsprint

New Delhi, Mar. 10 (Samachar) India will buy from Bangladesh this year subject to price and quality being favourable ten thousand tonnes of newsprint, twenty thousand tonnes of paddy, forty thousand tonnes of furnace oil, fifteen thousand tonnes of molasses and twenty tonnes of chloroquin diphosphate.

This was agreed at the three day annual trade review between the two countries which concluded last Saturday.

Hardware fair

New Delhi, Mar. 13 (Samachar): India's participation in the international hardware fair at Koln in West Germany in February this year resulted in spot business worth Rs. 35.20 million. Orders in the pipeline which may materialise in business in the course of the next few months amounted to Rs 40 million.

According to the engineering export promotion council, which organized the Indian participation, 20 Indian participants displayed various types of products and visitors from Europe, USA, Canada, Israel, Morocco and Greece had high praise for the quality of the Indian products. New products introduced for the first time in the international fair included oil cans, vernier calipers cross ring wrenches, forged steel vices and jack planes.

DEFENCE EXPEDITURE UP

Defence expenditure in 1978-79 will be a record Rs. 29,450 million (US$3270 million), accounting for 16 per cent of the entire budget. Bulk of this goes to the Army. The Air Force and the Navy come next in that order.

They were elected

The Central Alberta Indo-Canadian Association, Red Deer, elected a new slate of officers for 1978-79 at their general meeting on March 4, 1978. The elected are:

President — Dr. Moh Rattar
Vice-President — Mrs. Marjorie Brierton
Secretary — B. Grewal
Treasurer — Dr. S. Alimchandani
Past President — Dr. G. Bhadresa
Directors — G.S. Bassi, Janak Singh, Mrs. Parvin Allaudin, K.G. Alexander and M. Khan.

A considerable amount of time was spent in planning for:

The association participation in the Red Deer International Folk Festival in July, 1978.

Cultural Association of India, Montreal.

Ashoka Chakravarti, Executive, (Multiculture); Arun Chakravarti, Vice President; Aurovindo Choudhury, President; H.N. (NIMAI) Sarkar, Joint Secretary; Subrata Dalal, Secretary (Cultural); Subal Banerjee, Secretary (Corporate); Swapan Bhattacharjee, Treasurer.

Congress first enemy

New Delhi - Mrs. Indira Gandhi made it clear recently at her first formal and full-scale Press Conference since her crushing defeat in the Lok Sabha elections a year ago that, for the time being, she regards leaders of the other group of the Congress and not the Janata Party as her main enemy. Her strategy is to finish them first with support from any quarter and then confront the Janata Party.

True to its new name, the Congress, as she saw it, would henceforth be purely an "Indira Congress" and there need be no doubt in anybody's mind on that (Mrs. Gandhi's party is called Congress (I), the I standing for Indira).

If the other Congress wished to challenge that position, she would be prepared to wait. But there could no longer be any compromises with its leaders on frivolous claims of "inner democracy", it was evident from her stance.

Mrs. Gandhi scrupulously refrained from challenging the Janata Party's supremacy in the North. Her desire not to try to enter Lok Sabha is seen here as an admission that it would still be difficult for her to get elected from a North Indian constituency and to seek a safe South Indian constituency would amount to admission of defeat and affect her stature as a national leader.

Wanted: Stories and poems for children

The Multiculturalism Directorate of the federal government wishes to gather material suitable for inclusion in an anthology of original stories and poems for children. Submissions, with a high level of "kid appeal", reflecting some aspect of Canada's multicultural nature are now being sought. All those interested are asked to contact Jan Andrews (Anderson Rd., R.R. No. 1 Carlsbad Springs, Ont., K0A 1K0) who is working with the Directorate under contract. She will supply guidelines regarding subject matter, language of submissions, intended reader age, and deadlines etc., on request.

News in brief

WHISKY FOR WATCHES

Jammu - Whisky for watches sounds good barter trade, and the Pakistani's are enjoying it.

Illicit trade of Indian whisky across the border in Jammu and Kashmir has increased in the recent months, according to official reports.

Demand for Indian whisky in Pakistan has shot up following ban on liquor in that country.

Smugglers on both sides of the border are active, trading whisky for watches which can be imported into Pakistan.

A bottle of whisky costing between Rs. 48 and Rs. 70 in India is sold at Rs. 175 to Rs. 200 in Pakistan.

Police recently trapped an organised gang of whisky smugglers and also seized some foreign made watches from them.

CHINESE NEWSPRINT FOR INDIA

New Delhi - A trial supply of 30 tonnes of Chinese newsprint will be shipped to India end of March, and further supplies will be explored if the quality is satisfactory.

Meanwhile, the Soviet Union has conceded a substantial price reduction of nearly Rs. 200 per tonne in its newsprint supplies to India during 1978-79, over the previous year's level, it is learnt. In terms of the annual trade plan between the two countries, 45,000 tonnes of newsprint has to be supplied by the U.S.S.R.

Commonwealth seminar

New Delhi, March 8 (Samachar): H.M. Patel, Finance Minister, has said that public enterprises were expected to generate more surpluses for their own expansion and contribution to national growth.

Inaugurating a five-day Pan-Commonwealth Seminar Monday on issues in public enterprise development, the finance minister said notwithstanding their accountability to the public, these enterprises ought to function more imaginatively and take quick decisions and adhere to time schedules to ensure.

YEAR OF THE PANTHER

Lucknow - Exactly a year ago the wily panther of Dogadda for whom about 40 shikaris (hunters) are scurging an area of 80 square kms, was declared a maneater with a reward on its head.

In the course of the year, the conning animal has taken 16 lives and is still at large.

The village of Dogadda in Uttar Pradesh lives in constant dread of this maneater.

DESAI ASKS JANATA MP' FOR EXPLANATION

New Delhi - Prime Minister Desai has sought the explanation of Janata Party MPs, including some Ministers, for their absence during the voting on the 44th Constitution Amendment Bill in the last session of Parliament.

More than 90 Janata MPs were absent during the voting despite a party whip. The Bill was passed with the support of the Opposition by a two-thirds majority.

The Prime Minister is writing to the Janata MPs as only a few of them cared to reply to S.S. Bhandari, a deputy leader of the party in the Rajya Sabha, who sought explanations for their absence.

Janata meals

New Delhi — The railways have decided to supply "Janata Khana" (Common man's meal) on all major long distance trains at Re. 1 (one-nineth of a US dollar) per food packet.

This was one of the announcements made by Railway Minister Madhu Dandavate in the course of his presentation of the railway budget.

Three varieties of food packets will be sold on trains to suite the tastes of people from different parts of the country. This will be in addition to the normal catering arrangements already existing on trains and at stations.

Another interesting announcement of the Railway Minister was that henceforth only women would be employed as reservation or booking clerks and supervisors in the major railway booking offices.

Evidently, the Minister is firm in his belief that women are less prone to be corrupt than men.

CONGRESS QUITS 'JINXED' HEADQUARTERS

New Delhi - The Congress is shifting its headquarters from 5, Rajendra Prasad Road, a building believed by some to be jinxed.

The reason officially given out is that the step is aimed at curtailing expenditure.

The notoriety of the building stems from the fact that D. Sanjivayya suffered grevious injuries in an accident while residing there as a Union Minister, Morarji Desai, while living there, had to resign from the Government in 1969 after Mrs. Indira Gandhi stripped him of the Finance portfolio, and the Congress itself split January last while being a tenant there.

Dairy workshop

New Delhi, Mar 8 (Samachar): A workshop on milk cooperatives to be held in Anand in Gujarat is expected to help shatter the myth that the tropics, particularly "Monsoon Asia", is not an appropriate place for a thriving dairy industry.

Experiences in Anand as well as in Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Thailand have demonstrated the vast potential existing in this region for the dairy industry.

Learning French

By Thomas Panakal

Montreal— Participants in the French language program in Montreal have made considerable progress ever since it was begun in late 1977.

The majority of those who attend the Fench classes are teachers from India.

The informal nature of classes, according to one participant, is highly instrumental in learning the new language. This allows considerable degree of freedom in asking questions in class as well as in using the new words.

The Cultural Association of Friends of Kerala started the language program in late 1977 after much planning.

Since the classes began the Quebec Government has provided free books and room in a French school. Classes are held on Saturdays.

The Cultural Association of Friends of Kerala will also show a movie, RAGAM, on March 19.

CLASSIFIEDS

MATRIMONIALS

Wanted a suitable match for a north Indian girl (in India) M.A. Economics, doing B.Ed., well versed in typing, shorthand and household duties. Height 5'4", fair colour, caste no bar. Contact M-1382, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable match for my brother, 28 years old, clean-shaven Sikh machinist, living in Toronto. Interested parties in India or Canada please write to JOLLY, 1379 Acala Crescent, Mississauga, Ont., Canada or phone (416) 279-6739.

Matrimonial correspondence invited from "Canadian immigrants or citizen" Punjabi Brahmin girls for Punjabi Brahmin boys aged 23 and 25. Boys would like to migrate to Canada from India. Respectable family. Boys' brothers and sisters are settled in Canada. Write with details to M-1363, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited from professional boys for a beautiful Punjabi girl, 21, 5 ft 3 in., educated in India and France, belonging to a good family, sister well settled in Canada. Please contact at (613) 224-4307.

Suitable match for Punjabi, beautiful, Walia girl, 21, height 5'-2", fair complexion, college graduate, good family, visiting sister in Canada. Contact Amrik 763-5316 (Toronto) or Paul 769-4830 (Toronto).

Wanted suitable immigrant match for handsome Punjabi Aggarwal bachelor, 25, elect. engg., 5'-2". Presently employed as Engg in Bombay. Caste no bar. Cousins well settled in B.C. Details and photo requested in first letter. Reply Box M-1375, The Canadian India Times.

Well-established gentleman, mid-30's, scientist with business interests, new Canadian citizen, seeks attractive, progressive minded, sociable girl presently living in North America. Reply with photo and details to M-1364, The Canadian India Times.

Jat-Sikh match, U.S. or Canadian permanent resident, for two sisters, 28 and 26, charming, Senior Cambridge, resident of S.E. Asia. Also match for brother, professional, Canadian Citizen, U.S. immigrant. Write P.O. Box 2782, Postal Stn. B, 15 Duke St. E., Kitchener, Ontario.

Matrimonial correspondence invited for 28 year old, 5' 10", handsome Gujarati boy, about to complete M.Sc. in Chem. Engg. Apply with details Box 298, Sub. P.O. #6, Saskatoon, Sask. (306) 665-7208.

wanted suitable match for Gujarati gentleman presently employed in Toronto as goldsmith. Uncle and cousins well-settled in Toronto. Girl must be Gujarati, vegetarian, and settled in Canada. Reply to Box M-1385, The Canadian India Times.

Hindu family well settled in Canada invites correspondence for the marriage of daughter aged 23, doing post-graduate study in Business Administration and holding permanent managerial position in a leading Canadian Department Store chain. Reply Box M-1380, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted suitable immigrant match for handsome Punjabi Aggarwal bachelor, 25, elect. engg. 5'-8½". Presently employed as engg. in Bombay. Caste no bar. Cousins well settled in B.C. Details and photo requested in first letter. Reply Box M-1376, The Canadian India Times.

Matrimonial correspondence invited for a Muslim girl, aged 27 years, landed immigrant. Looking for a well-settled Muslim boy. May write with full particulars, recent copy of photograph to Box M-1388, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited from suitable boys settled in Canada/U.S.A. for our beautiful niece, gentle nature, 5'-2", Hindu girl, 20, metric sewing diploma from India. Early marriage. Well respected, gentle and well settled family Ph. (306)-468-2613, Box 323, Canwood (Sask).

Wanted a permanent resident suitable match for a 24 year old 5'-9" handsome Sikh lawyer of Amritsar belonging to a family of well settled professionals in North America. For details contact Drs. Singhs, 183 Glenforest Dr. Halifax.

Suitable match for Punjabee girl, Canadian citizen, university graduate. Interested professionals about 28 years old, please correspond with photograph. Box M-1389, The Canadian India Times.

Engineer or doctor boy required for marriage of a Bengalee girl, 21, B.Sc(Management), working, has permanent visa, contact B. Mitra, Detroit Edison Co., Detroit, Mi, 48226.

Wanted suitable match for doctor settled in Canada. Divorced gentleman 40 years. Caste no bar. M-1387, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted tall, handsome, professionally qualified Hindu bachelor, well settled in Canada or U.S.A., for a slim, beautiful girl, 26, 5'5".

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Retirement benefits may now be paid retroactively for a period of up to 12 months to contributors who had attained age 65 but who are under age 70 and who have retired from the labour force.

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Applications for retroactive benefits (i.e. up to 12 months) can now be made on behalf of a deceased person, in cases where a contributor qualified, but failed to apply, before death. Families or estates will be entitled to receive benefits in such cases.

Elimination of Reductions in Children's Benefits.

Orphans' and disabled contributors' children's benefits are no longer reduced for the fifth and subsequent children. All children in a family, regardless of its size, are eligible to receive equal benefits.

These important amendments to the Canada Pension Plan came into force on January 1st, 1978.
If you have any questions, contact the Canada Pension Plan office nearest you.

Health and Welfare Canada — Monique Bégin, Minister
Santé et Bien-être social Canada — Monique Bégin, Ministre